

HOPEWELL NEWS

1943-1946

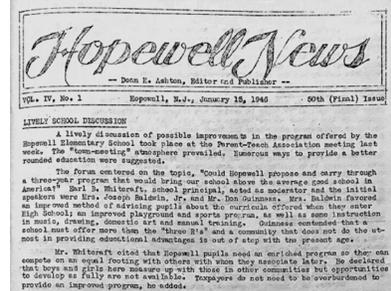
Presented to the Hopewell Library-Museum
Hopewell, New Jersey,

By
Dean H. Ashton

October, 1947

D. Dixon, Rev. 7/12/2020

During World War II, Dean Henderson Ashton (1900 – 1960), a journalist, wrote *Hopewell News*, a newsletter of hometown news for service members around the world. He continued this effort from 1943 to 1946, for three years and fifty issues, and eventually reached a distribution of over 500 copies per issue.



After the war, Ashton expanded this work into a book, *Be It Ever So Humble, The Story of Hopewell, New Jersey, and its Servicemen During World War II*, published in 1947, describing the experiences of Hopewell people in the armed forces during World War II, as well as home life around the town.

Later in his life, Ashton researched and wrote *Hopewell Academy (Forerunner of Brown University) and the Lives of Outstanding Graduates*, which covers the genesis of the Hopewell Academy in the Hopewell Baptist Church in 1747, the work of Isaac Eaton in forming the school, the legacy and graduates of the school, and James Manning's development of Brown University. Unfortunately, Ashton died early at age 60, but his unpublished manuscript was preserved, and finally was made publicly available in 2020.



The *Hopewell News* was originally called *Hopewell This'N-That*. It typically had topic sections including Church Doings, Happenings Around Town, For Those In Service, plus poems and jokes. The town news included local headlines, news briefs, and short updates on Hopewell people and businesses. The service news included updates from people home on furlough, letters from around the world, and news of injuries and deaths.

After the war, Ashton delivered bound editions of the *Hopewell News* issues to the Hopewell Library-Museum, which are currently available at the Hopewell Public Library and The Hopewell Museum.

Total 50 issues plus 4 letters, 294 pages.

Summary Contents

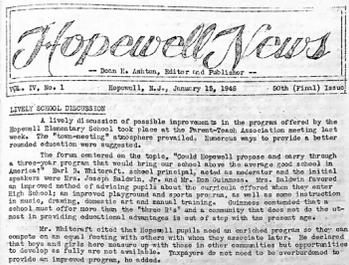
- Hopewell News - Vol. I - 1943 (14 issues, 61 pp.)
 - Hopewell This'N-That - March - July 1943
 - Hopewell News - Aug. - Dec. 1943
- Hopewell News - Vol. II - 1944 (17 issues, 102 pp.)
- Hopewell News - Vol. III - 1945 (18 issues, 117 pp.)
- Hopewell News - Vol. IV - 1946 (1+4 issues, 14 pp.)
 - Hopewell News - Jan. 1946
 - Letters - Feb. - May 1946

Dean Ashton and His Publications



**Dean Henderson Ashton
(1900 - 1960)**

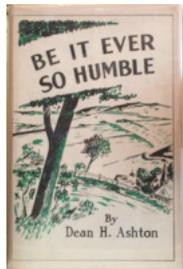
Graduate of Columbia Univ. School of Journalism
Courthouse reporter for Trenton Times for 12 years
Retired from the State Department of Labor
Buried in Highland Cemetery



Hopewell News (Hopewell This-'N'-That)

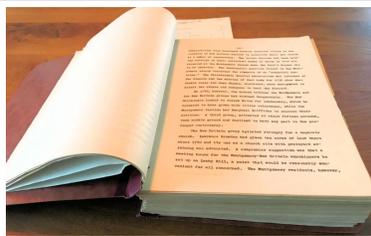
Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher
World War II news-sheet,

to inform service members of home-town doings
Published 50 issues, from January 1943 to January 1946
Originally sent to Calvary Baptist Church members
Eventual distribution of 500 copies,
to more than 200 Hopewell people in the armed forces



**Be It Ever So Humble
The Story of Hopewell, New Jersey,
and its Servicemen During World War II**

by Dean H. Ashton
1947, 370 pp, Printed by Kirkham & Guthrie, Trenton
Extracts from *Hopewell News*, with personal interviews
after service members returned from the war



**Hopewell Academy
(Forerunner of Brown University)
And The Lives of Outstanding Graduates**

by Dean Henderson Ashton
Unpublished manuscript
c. 1960, 539 pp

Hopewell News - 1943 - 1946 - Dean Ashton

Hopewell News - Vol. I - 1943 (14 issues, 61 pp.)

Hopewell This'N-That - March - July 1943

Hopewell This'N-That - March 3, 1943 - first issue (2 pp.)

"Published now and then, exclusively for men in the service"

Hopewell This'N-That - March 24, 1943 - Circulation: World-Wide, Limited Edition

"A chatty newspaper issued now and then, containing anything that may occur to the editor"

Hopewell This'N-That - April 16, 1943

Hopewell This'N-That - May 7, 1943

"A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now and Then, and Containing Most Anything"

Hopewell This'N-That - No. 6 - May 27, 1943

"A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now and Then About Your Town, Your Church, Your Friends and You"

Hopewell This'N-That - No. 7 - June 21, 1943

Hopewell This'N-That - No. 8 - July 12, 1943 - last issue before name change (5 pp.)

Hopewell News - Aug. - Dec. 1943

Hopewell News - No. 9 - Aug. 3, 1943 - first issue after name change (3 pp.)

...

Hopewell News - Vol. I, No. 14 - Dec. 8, 1943 - Christmas issue (8 pp.)

Hopewell News - Vol. II - 1944 (17 issues, 102 pp.)

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 1 - Jan. 3, 1944 (4 pp.)

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 2 - Jan. 24, 1944 (6 pp.) - 16th issue

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 3 - Feb. 14, 1944 (6 pp.)

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 3 - Feb. 14, 1944 (6 pp.) - Special Edition - Typical issue, available to anyone
(p 1 new intro, p 2 reformatted, p 3 - 6 same)

...

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 9 - June 28, 1944 (6 pp.) - New mastheads (graphic, not typewritten)

...

Hopewell News - Vol. II, No. 17 - Dec. 13, 1944 (6 pp.) - 31st issue

Hopewell News - Vol. III - 1945 (18 issues, 117 pp.)

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 1 - Jan. 2, 1945 (6 pp.) - 32nd issue

...

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 6 - April 17, 1945 (6 pp.) - 37th issue - **FDR dies**

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 7 - May 8, 1945 (6 pp.) - 38th issue - **V-E Day**

Extra: Fire damages Eagle Bakery and adjoining Boy Scout building on Mercer St.

...

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 10 - July 10, 1945 (8 pp.) - 41st issue - Jim Hall Awarded Purple Heart

...

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 12 - Aug. 24, 1945 (6 pp.) - 43rd issue - "**Victory! Peace!**" Japan capitulates

...

Hopewell News - Vol. III, No. 18 - Dec. 26, 1945 (6 pp.) - 49th issue

Hopewell News - Vol. IV - 1946 (1+4 issues, 14 pp.)

Hopewell News - Jan. 1946

Hopewell News - Vol. IV, No. 1 - Jan. 15, 1945 (6 pp.) - **50th (Final) Issue**

Letters - Feb. - May 1946

More of a personal letter for people still in service

Dropped the heaving mailing of folks around town and nearby - over 400

Letter #1 - Feb. 6, 1946 (2 pp.) - Calvary Baptist Church fire

Letter #2 - March 4, 1946 (2 pp.)

Letter #3 - April 8, 1946 (2 pp.)

Letter #4 - May 14, 1946 (2 pp.)

Complete File

of

"HOPEWELL NEWS"

(News-Letter Issued from March, 1943
to June, 1946)

Edited and Published
by
DEAN H. ASHTON
97 West Broad Street
Hopewell, New Jersey

9/13/6

HOPEWELL THIS 'N-THAT

(Published now and then, exclusively for men in the service)

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

First of all, I'll try to serve as a little clearing-house for news about the fellows in uniform who are scattered to all points of the compass.....Harold VanLiew, (Navy) reached home yesterday on his first leave since he went to Sampson, New York.....Bill Wyckoff, also stationed at Sampson, had an operation to correct a hernia condition, we learn.....And since this is turning into a medical report, I'll also mention that an Ege chap from Hopewell has been ill at Atlantic City with pneumonia since he went into the service.....Also, Wilfred Gray, who is out at Chanute Field, Illinois (he is one of the newer members of the Baptist Church) has been troubled with some sort of a heart kick-up, I'm told.

....Vernone Temple (Navy) went back a day or so ago, after several days around Hopewell. He had developed a heavy cold while on the train headed for Hopewell. Seemed mighty good to see him, and to note the way he stepped right back into harness in the Junior Department of the Sunday School, as if he hadn't missed a Sunday; he also visited Paul Stryker's class as the younger fellows wanted to put him through quite a quizzing about duffle bags, training, etc....Harold Temple is at Atlantic City, finally getting that long-awaited call to start Army Air Corps training.

.....Tom McCandless who went into the Army about two weeks ago, also is at Atlantic City. He was in high glee when he phoned to his Father to report on his assignment to the Air Corps. Even the 4.30 A.M. rising, with drilling on the boardwalk at 4.45 A.M. seemed to be all right, as far as he was concerned. The word is that he is in a signaling branch of the Air Force.....Ed Sheppard paid another flying visit to town and church two Sundays ago. He's now at Quantico, Va., so he could take advantage of Saturday and Sunday leave. He's now in the Ammunition Section of the Ordnance School, working hard in the hope that he can win advancement.....Arch Litsen, at the Navy Pier Technical Training Station, Chicago, writes that he feels sorry for the folks at home because he thinks we have to do without a lot of things, while those in the Navy have plenty. Well--that's sumthin'--although we still think that the fellows in the service are the ones who are doing the job that deserves all the credit.

NEWS ABOUT YOUR CHURCH

Pastor Johnston started his fourth year last Sunday, preaching on "The Ministry--Some Pluses and Minuses." He says what he thinks, you know, and so he did some plain talking about the ideas that some people have that a pastor doesn't really work, that he should be used as a handy-man for a multitude of jobs, that his ideas for the good of the church should be handled gingerly, etc. Some folks didn't like it much when he said the hymn "In The Garden," isn't good music, much as it is generally liked. Recently, he mentioned that the church windows were "hideous," so you can see he still wants to see things done.....He's preparing a special series of sermons for the Lenten season and Easter, and the choir is working on special music.....Sunday School attendance bounded above 100 last week, bringing smiles to Mr. Riley's face..... Beryl Agin and others in her group had charge of the opening program and did right well.....

NEWS ABOUT YOUR CHURCH (continued)

...The Men's Fellowship had a pleasant evening about two weeks ago. There, we saw again the movie of the basement-floor job, as some of the men had missed the earlier showings. Ed Sheppard was still holding up for exhibition a pair of suspenders that he found in the cinders, Vernon Temple was still wiping off the sweat after digging a "dry-well," etc. Some of the men (at the meeting) were looking again at the cracks in the floor, which are quite numerous, and now attributed to the lack of expansion joints.

The Young People are planning a show for the end of this month. It's to be a radio studio take-off, I hear. One item will be a mystery probably entitled "Murder in the Coal-Bin;" also, they plan a comic quiz program, phoney commercial announcements, etc....Right now, Margaret Hullfish, their president, is in Boston, as her heart-interest came East from the Pacific Coast.....Mrs. Lindsay, superintendent of the Junior Department, underwent an operation but returned from the hospital a few days ago....Last Sunday, Sadie Dansberry sang, "My Task," a dandy number (hope you know it).

Here's one on Pastor Johnston. The air-raid signals, you may know, call for the ringing of the church bells, as well as the blowing of the fire-siren....We had a test one night recently. Then a week ago Saturday afternoon, word was flashed to be ready to ring again (in other words, he got the preliminary call). So Mr. Johnston hurried to the church balcony and waited--and waited--and waited. Luckily, he had a newspaper with him. In fact, he waited about half an hour and still no further word. Finally, he went home to get his Supper. It was fortunate that he did, for the second signal hasn't come through yet!

NEWS AROUND TOWN

A few warm days had everybody (almost) talking about gardens. Mr. Russell Riley and his brother, Harry, and two or three neighbors are going to "farm" a big lot on Greenwood Avenue, opposite the east end of Hart Avenue....Point-rationing started this week and Mrs. Bodine had a special crew of women posted in the groceries to help customers and the owners alike. It seems that the women will have to learn how to shop all over again.. As Mr. Weart expressed it, it's getting now so that "you don't ask about the price, the big question is whether the store has any." Incidentally, Weart's have stopped town-deliveries on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but the store is a bee-hive of activity...

The Post Office situation seems to have cleared up. Mr. McAlinden (the New Postmaster) is on the job, with Mrs. Stout assisting. Evidently she is helping him to learn the ropes....The town was all a-thrill one afternoon last week when four Army tanks and a jeep came rolling through. No one seemed to know what it was all about but they went toward Rosedale and after some time came back and out West Broad Street and away. The roar, etc. was something to talk about.... At the Grammar School, the 4-H Club directed by Paul Stryker is raising chickens, starting some day-old stock and proud of their success to date.....Louie, the baker, had some good sauerkraut the other day.... Speaking of Paul Stryker, he persuaded Pastor Johnston one day recently to go bike-riding. Paul wanted to go to Princeton, but they didn't go quite that far. Mr. Johnston said "it nearly killed me" while Paul said it was "just a little spin."

HOPEWELL THIS-AND-THAT

(A chatty newspaper issued now and then, containing most anything that may occur to the editor, Dean H. Ashton.)

Circulation: World-wide

March 24, 1943

Limited Edition

THE EDITOR SAYS

Friendly comments on this style of news-letter prompt me to continue in the same vein.....Hope you will continue to enjoy it, and find a few things that have a special appeal for you.....To those who will be seeing it for the first time (Mr. Johnston, our pastor, tells me I should get it to all the fellows from Calvary Baptist Church, so my circulation list now increases to 25) I'll explain that it's just the plan I hit upon so fellows in the service would get some of the news of their church, town gossip and occasional news about others in the service at widely scattered points.

I've said it before, but I think I should repeat--wherever you may be and if themail doesn't seem to reach you very often, rest assured that you are not forgotten. You are uppermost in the thoughts of the good people in the Hopewell Baptist Church; a special prayer for all service men is a part of every Sunday morning's service; in the special Lenten union services being held every Wednesday night, your safety and well-being is emphasized; in the Sunday School, the same thought prevails. So--carry on, pray, keep the faith!

This news-letter must be my way of acknowledging your special letters, and I hope you don't mind.... I'm always glad to hear from you, but feel under no obligation to write.....Yet your letters always give me some good material to include in this report, for the benefit of others. (See "With the Fellows in the Service" on later pages).

CHURCH NEWS

The trustees could use some of you husky young fellows before long as they are planning to haul several loads of topsoil from the Conover farm to be placed on the church lawn. They've warned Mr. Johnston, the pastor, to prepare himself for some strenuous lawn-mowing, when the new seed gets planted and begins to sprout....Tickets are now out for the Young People's variety show on April 9; a sort of radio-take-off, that ought to appeal and yield some cash to buy small trees, etc. to landscape the church property. The trustees cut down a big tree on the side lawn, the one that made so much shade that the grass wouldn't grow heretofore.....

The church still needs a janitor, but little hope of finding one since better-paying jobs are so numerous elsewhere....Some of the women went to scrubbing the upstairs vestibule and really restored the linoleum, also chasing some dust from out-of-the-way corners....Green streamers in the Sunday School room windows remained as a reminder of a St. Patrick's party held by some of the Intermediate classes.....Sunday School attendance was 99 last Sunday, Paul Stryker in charge....Women have taken over the job of serving a dinner to the H.A. Smith directors once a month, as they find their trips to Princeton for that purpose use too much gas, etc. They seemed to like the Hopewell cooking--enthusiastic about it, in fact.

Lenten services being held every Wednesday night....Mr. Ginter had an embarrassing moment at the first one. After referring to the inspiration in one of the Psalms, and remarking that "this one surely was written by David because it sounds exactly like him," he began to read. After three or

CHURCH NEWS (continued)

Four verses, he paused and said, "Well, I guess Mr. Johnston played a trick on me. This isn't the Psalm I intended to read--I'm reading from the Book of Isaiah!" So he turned the pages and found the right place.

A dozen attended last week's choir rehearsal, getting ready for Palm Sunday and Easter music....The choir's been rehearsing at Paul Stryker's (that's one way to be sure he's present) but with warmer weather, rehearsals will return to the church. That also gives Louise Stryker ~~in~~ a chance to sleep, as she's begun work at the Eastern Aircraft and has to be on the job at 7 A. M. It looks as if Paul will be going in the Army very soon after school is over in June.

Lloyd Drake had an experience much like Mr. Johnston on a recent air-raid test. The test was announced for 9 P.M. and Lloyd offered to ring the church bell as part of the warning signal (in Mr. Johnston's absence). He reported promptly but it was the night of a delayed signal so after waiting an hour, he decided to go home. About 10.30 that night, the signal finally came through but Lloyd was already snug in bed....

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Oliver Jenkins was back in Hopewell a few days ago, coming in from California. He's been doing "M.P." duty, some of the time keeping an eye on Jap prisoners, I believe.....I had an interesting letter from Bill Wyckoff, who was still in the Naval Hospital at Sampson, N.Y., getting a hernia condition fixed up. He said he hoped to get a leave before long, but found the hospital excellent, new with good care provided.....Tom McCandless wrote to me from Atlantic City, but now is with the 800th Training Group, Barracks 1063, Seymoure Johnson Field, North Carolina. I believe He's studying airplane radio mechanics. While at Atlantic City ("Playground of the World," they used to call it), he was doing such things as hiking seven and one-half miles to the rifle range, then walking back part of the distance.

Donald C. Dilts is at Camp Hood Texas, his address being 15th Platoon, Co.A. Tank D.R., T.C.....Dennis VanLiew is now a Sergeant, serving with the Armored Infantry, getting desert warfare training.

Probably you have heard that Irwin VanNeste met his death in North Africa on February 15, when that Rommel push gave us a temporary set-back. It is believed that he was with one of the tanks that were ambushed and put out of action by big German guns, hauled unexpectedly to the scene...The news saddened all of Hopewell. I was in the barber shop when his uncle, Mr. Wolfe, came there after receiving the telegram at the station. He was overwhelmed and didn't know how to carry the message to the boy's Mother. That left a lasting impression on all of us who were present...

Jack Van Liew hopped out to Fort Logan, Colorado, where he is in the 9th T.S.S., Air Corps Technical School. He was in the hospital for a week but is now in an Administration and Supply School, moving up to PFC when classes started. He expects to be there about eight weeks.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Ira Blackwell, who seems to start his garden earlier every year, planted lettuce during a snowstorm about ten days ago. He has peas, onion sets as well as lettuce already at work. For a man of 80 or more, he's quite a pace-setter.....Cal Hill, who drives a school bus to Princeton, has the measles! Actually! A lot of it around...Another measles' patient is Betty Weart, who works in the Hopewell bank these days....Young Bill Johnson (Princeton Senior) also had a couple of weeks out for the same reason--maybe he gave the measles to Cal Hill, who knows? Herb (?) Forsythe has been doing the bus-driving meanwhile.....Mrs. Kirby thinks her son, Burk, is out of the country, and she's worried because she has had no word for about five weeks. That's always a pretty anxious time for the folks back home.

NEWS AROUND TOWN (continued)

With meat plenty scarce, Orville Carkhuff killed several hogs and took them to Weart's store. While clerks kidded him about making sure that one wasn't stolen from his truck, others saw to it that one did disappear. Carkhuff had quite a time about it, thinking he really had lost it.....

Braham Benson, Jack Ginter and Paul Ashton played in a Princeton High orchestra and band concert last week.....Mr. Koepfel, the insurance man, had had another accident with his car.....Ed Ashton (my uncle, who says that a doctor told him "Better take things easy until I see you again," and then the doctor died, so he still follows the doctor's advice) lost a wheel from his taxi last Saturday afternoon near the Presbyterian church. It swerved him around close to the wall on that side of the street. He's been trying to get a new car but it takes time these days to get an O.K.

A new oil pipeline over the mountain is being started this week. It crosses the river near Lambertville. About 500 sections of pipe have been unloaded at the Skillman station. It will tie in with a line from Texas by Summer.....Donald Allen built a new chicken -coop and then a fire broke out that destroyed it. I hear that they threw a quilt over a brooder and it caught fire.....The young chaps who comprise the Hopewell basketball team have lost about ten straight. The team includes Bill Boozer, Bill Johnson, Bill Ashton, Jim Hall, Russ Holcombe, Jr. and Dick Lewis.

IN CLOSING

I'm afraid I've let this run on almost endlessly....Maybe you've read it in short hitches, and probably that's the best way. I've tried to burn out better carbon copies so the eye-strain will be a little less than last time. Sorry every sheet cannot be an original, but those who get the carbon copies will understand.

Best of luck to you, now and always.

Did you see this item date-lined from Fort Sheridan, Illinois:
The cooking expert of the Fort Sheridan Tower has concocted this "recipe of the year:

"Take one draftee, slightly green. Stir from bed at early hour. Soak in shower or tub daily. Dress in olive drab. Mix with others of his kind. Toughen with maneuvers. Grate on sergeant's nerves. Add liberal portions of baked beans and corned beef. Season with wind, rain, sun or snow. Sweeten from time to time with chocolate bars. Let smoke occasionally. Bake in 110 degrees Summer heat and let cool in below zero weather. Serves 140,000,000 people."

Also, I am enclosing a poem written by former Governor Harold G. Hoffman, who until a few days ago was a patient in an Army Hospital. In fact, I'll enclose two poems, in different vein. Hope you'll enjoy them.

Best wishes,

Dean H. Ashton

17 W. Broad Street
Hopewell, N. J.

A KERNEL'S KOMPLAINT

(Written in his native New Joisey dialect by
Lt. Col. H. G. Hoffman, who fears that his
Gall is about to be divided into three parts)

It makes me laff - "Land of de Free"
Just lookit what they done to me!
My days of liberty is past
They got me, pards, locked up at last!

They nabbed me, jabbed me; brung me here;
No clothes, no noise, no wine, no beer.
I've lost it all, in this damned War -
De Freedom I wuz fightin' for.

It makes me sore to hear 'em tell,
When I insist I'm fit and well,
And full of vim and pep and zest -
"Tut, tut! The Medicos know best."

They say I'll lose my spasmic curses,
Wid rest, good food, and pretty nurses,
And then they add, in high elation,
"--And maybe, too, an operation!"

Sadistic guys around this jernt
All ask me, do I get the pernt
That blokes wid gravel in their bladder
Can never climb the Army ladder.

So, pards, as soon as I am able
I'll lay my fanny on de table,
And widout fear or reservation
Give up my bladder to de nation.

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER

To ably meet my soldier's task,
To keep the faith by fire and sword;
I humbly kneel but these to ask -
Abundant strength and courage, Lord.

By manhood's yardstick let me stand,
To measure tall and unafraid;
To take the post that Thou hast planned,
To seek but Duty's accolade.

When far from home that post may be,
In sheltered spot or grim frontier,
May those I love find, Lord, in Thee
Their refuge from all harm and fear.

That men in Freedom's light may live,
To worship Thee, to work, to plan,
May I my life and service give,
As Thou hath fashioned me, a Man!

- Harold G. Hoffman

(This little poem was written for the "Halloran Chapel News", which in its issue of March 7th says: "The beautifully written 'Soldier's Prayer' came from the heart of a soldier, and has been dedicated to the patients at Halloran Hospital. The author is Lt. Col. Harold G. Hoffman, formerly Governor of New Jersey. On Sunday morning this fine prayer, written by a soldier for soldiers, will be sung as a hymn. You are all familiar, we are sure, with that fine tune of Hursley's, commonly used with the words 'Sun of my Soul, Thou Savior Dear.' Make this prayer YOUR prayer, now.")

NEWS ABOUT MEN IN THE SERVICE

What-ya know--the group of about 25 fellows from Calvary Baptist Church are now scattered in 15 different States, and two others overseas. Who would a-thunk that such a change would occur? As nearly as I can say, three are in the Army Air Force; four in the Tank Corps; two in Army Bands, two with the Artillery, one medical, one M.P., two in Administration and two going it "straight" with the Infantry; in the Navy, there are five from our church.

Heard from Reg Hurley, who reported that he has a change occasionally to attend church in Honolulu. His last letter came through in about ten days' time...Ken Burroughs is the latest to go into service, being sent to an Air Corps Tech. School at Keesler Field, Mississippi... Harold VanLieu, at last reports, was serving as a mail carrier at the Sampson (N.Y.) Naval Training Station...Vernon Temple (was at Sampson) was home on a hurried visit recently, arriving at 8 A.M. and leaving around 4 P.M. to get back to Boston., Mass., where he 's at Hotel Somerset..Bill Wyckoff is at home right now, coming in from Sampson after recovering from an operation...Wilfred Gray, out at Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, appreciates letters a heap, as he is still in the hospital, but improving and hoping to be away from the hospital early in May...Erwin Benson and Fred VanLieu, on leave from Fort Miles, Lewes, Del., were in church last Sunday.

Harold Temple is now at Penn State College, up from Atlantic City.. He is to have flight instruction and five months' training there as an Aviation Cadet, and lives in a fraternity house. He says his outfit did such a good job scrubbing up hotels in Atlantic City that officers moved his outfit so they could move in...Jack VanLieu, out at the Air Corps Technical School, Fort Logan, Colorado, has been trying out field rations while busy studying. He's lucky to have his wife out in Denver where she expects to be until he graduates...Arch Litzen say's it's still a busy life at the U.S.Naval Training School (Air Tech. Training) at Chicago... Donald Dilts, at Camp Hood, Texas, says it's lots of drilling, but he got a big kick out of a chance to drive an Army truck. A trip to the rifle range there means a bike of 24 miles, he reports.

Burk Kirby is in North Africa, being heard from after a long silence...Jack Burton, writing from England, got a letter here in 14 days, and reported he slept right through an air raid in London recently.

(Editor's Note--I know you're all busy, but drop me a card whenever you can, so I can keep this department going. The other fellows seem to be keen to know what the rest are doing.)

NEWS AROUND TOWN

George McCandless has left Weart's store, for reasons of health. For the time being, he will drive for Freihofer's. Mr. Willis is taking over as manager...Ron Wyckoff, wife and three kids are living in Hopewell again, while he commutes to a Phila. bank job...The town has a new taxi, obtained by Ed Ashton, who promises he will drive just as slowly as ever, even if it is safe to go as much as 25 miles an hour!...Cal Hill has been back on the school bus quite some time, having licked the measles...Mr. Ziegler, of Overlook Inn, is working at Bellemead...Raymond VanDyke has been serving on the Federal Grand Jury...Mayor Metz thought he was getting measles but escaped...During the meat shortage, 15 persons were at Weart's store one morning when it opened up at 8 A.M...Mrs. Ginter underwent a tonsil operation...Bill Bodine, Bill Johnson and Bill Ashton worked a few days on a farm cutting potatoes...Thompson's, living in the farm house (one of Hopewell's oldest) next to Fritz's, are fixing up...On a recent Tuesday night (no movies, Spot closed that night) only three cars were parked on Broad Street in centre of town at 9 P.M.

BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE HOLD RADIO VARIETY SHOW

The Young People made over \$30 with their radio "take-off." Would you like to know more about the goings-on? All right, imagine yourself with a good centre-aisle seat, a good attendance, an imitation microphone on the stage and the cast moving around as freely as in a radio studio (no stage curtain, the actors re-grouping themselves during a "commercial," etc.) Intersperse lots of laughter, your own included.

The show begins. It's "The Trials of a Country Girl." Margaret Hullfish is the country gal, whose Ma (Mrs. Johnston), known as Hattie Hole-In-A-Bucket" wants to get her married off. Graham Benson provides sound effects while seated on the stage, surrounded by coal buckets, glass to break, bells, etc.) The pastor, Mr. Johnston, is "Pa" while Paul Ashton is a new beau, dumb as they come. All talk Southern dialect --and that's easy for the Johnstons. When the new beau arrives, Ma says "Maybe this one will marry her before he gets to know her." When they began to talk about cooking mule steaks, Margaret got to laughing and the show almost ended there. Ma finds that someone stole all her savings, \$3, from the sugar-bowl, the money being saved so they could send their son "to the fifth grade." Then their son (Delbert Conover) dashes in to report, "Paw, the barn's on fire." and Paw says it must be from "Ignoramus combustion" and like most radio dramas, the play ends there "To be continued next year."

(The "commercials" include Chiclets, Tarter's Little Blasting Pills, Never-sharp Pencils, etc.) Sound effects, that is music, comes from a Victrola.

"Take It or Leave It" follows, and the group picked from the audience included John Cutter, Bill Bodine, Lois Wyckoff, Tom Pancoast and Donald Allen). The winners are told that the "armored car hasn't arrived with the cash for prizes" so the winners are paid off in peanuts. During the rest of the show, the boys were "shelling 'em out" on the rear rows.

Harry McCandless did a "Walter Windshield" act. He said that the Fuel Oil Rationing Board promised that everyone in Hopewell would be plenty hot during July and August; he said an optimist was a person who wrote a personal message on a postcard and sent it through the Hopewell Postoffice; he denied that George McCandless was quitting the grocery business after cleaning up a half-million dollars selling horse-meat in the "black market"; that the pastor's call for men to work on the church lawn met with hearty response, a big turn-out--all on their way to the movies; etc.

"The Quiz Brats" followed, Mr. Johnston as Quiz-Master and Della Conover, Doris Holcomb, Clyde Ashton, Virginia Sheldrick and James Thompson answering the questions. They did right smart, and war stamps were won by the Sheldrick and Holcombe girls; Clyde was too quick in raising his hand when the question was "Who threw down his cloak in a puddle for Queen Elizabeth?" and when told to give the answer said "I've forgotten his name!" When Mr. Johnston asked "How long would it take one boy to build a bird-house if it took two boys two days to build two bird-houses?" and when someone said, one day, he said "Right!", then to correct himself said "Don't get me mixed up like that!" One Quiz Brat, when asked "Who said 'Give me liberty or give me death,'" replied "Gandhi."

Then we had the mystery drame "Murder in the Coal Bin." Margaret Hullfish used a healthy scream to advantage before being strangled to death on Lower Gruesome Street. Mrs. Johnston also was a victim, and for sound effects, Harry McCandless plopped to the floor each time. Mr. Johnston, the murderer, was a scientist trying to convert coaldust into coffee; when police arrive, he shouts "Go away, there's nobody home!" The murderer tried to escape through the coal bin, and was buried alive beneath the heap.

(RADIO VARIETY SHOW--continued)

The final act was "Truth or Consequences," the participants coming from the audience. Paul Ashton acted as Master of Ceremonies. Miss Thompson, school-teacher, didn't know what "erin g-bragh" meant so her penalty was to put on boxing gloves, then try to tie a necktie around her own neck. It was a riot. Lloyd Drake got a big hand when they gave him a clothesline, some baby clothes and had him hold two clothespins in his mouth, while he sang "I've Been Working on the Railroad" and hung out the wash. Mrs. Margaret Lawson (another teacher) put on the boxing gloves and was given peanuts to shell--and she did it; Ruth Drake sang "Little Brown Jug," and at various signals on a bell, had to grab her left or right foot, and turn around in different directions. As a finale, Mrs. Ruth Doyle was blindfolded and tried to feed cereal out of a spoon to Mrs. Drake, with a lot of it going down inside her blouse.

Then, before the last "commercials," Mr. Johnston broke the news that an air-raid warning test was going to begin in a very few minutes. It was a real test, and the audience scampered in great haste. Many hadn't left when the signals began, and others came back. The whole test took nearly three-quarters of an hour, and the crowd had to sit or walk around the church basement as best they could in the darkness. It was some finale to an evening's entertainment.

ITEMS ABOUT CHURCH DOINGS

Now that their show is over, the Young People may hold up the landscaping until Fall, or at least the planting of grass-seed. That seemed to be the advice given, if best results are to be obtained. However, they may go ahead and level up the lawn (the men doing this work in part already)....The Young People held a supper meeting at the pardonage a couple of weeks ago, starting with toasted sandwiches, etc. and the idea made quite a hit.....Easter plans include an evening service this Sunday (Palm Sunday) in our church, a union service, that is; then special services almost every night during the following week, and a sunrise service in the Presbyterian Church on Eastern morning; in our church, a candlelight communion service will be held Easter Sunday evening.Mr. VanLieu and Mr. Cray have been putting in a bunch of hours after volunteering to instal a new wash-bowl in the church basement for the ladies.....At last Sunday's service, Sadie Dansberry sang "The Holy City," and the compliments were flying thick and fast, for it was well done.....The church organ put on a "whistling" act during most of the service, due to a pipe getting jiggled out of place...The Presbyterian organ played the same trick recently, although even worse, as their church had been cold for several weeks and the organ got out of whack. Mr. Ginter said he guessed a Gremlin from one of the Army airplanes must have gotten into the organ...The "Every Member" campaign is under way, with the trustees looking after it.....Mrs. Amos Williamson has been reelected as president of the Ladies' Aid....A fairly new comer, Mr. Yeick, taught the Men's Class last Sunday (as Mr. Johnston has been taking care of a special training class.... Attendance in the lower departments of the Sunday School has been reduced because of so much chicken-pox and measles around Hopewell....At the Smith's on Broad Street (where they have quite a houseful of children as boarders) the sign on the door was changed from chickenpox to measles when some of the youngsters decided to be different....Needed, someone to climb up the church steeple on the inside as the church bell has turned over, and it only rings once when it should ring two strokes (as explained to me, but maybe I'm wrong).

A CENSOR CENSORED

I've got a gal so far away,
And she is fair and pale,
But how can I send my love to her,
When the censor reads my mail?

This gal of mine is oh, so sweet,
I love her willy nilly,
But how can I tell her of my love,
When in print it looks so silly!

I hate the thought of tender words,
Being seen by strangers' eyes.
The soul-writ words for her alone
The lies and alibis.

So read my letters gently, sir,
They're not meant at all for you,
But for a gal so far away,
I've scrawled this silly goo.

And when you read each letter, sir,
And laugh with profound delight,
Remember, sir, that another censor
Reads every letter that you write.

A PUZZLER

The bus driver charged a lady full fare (10¢) for her son because he had on long pants. At the next corner another lady got on. Her little boy had short trousers, so the bus driver charged her half fare (5¢).

Two blocks later a lady got on. The bus driver didn't charge her anything. Why?

*(If you can't think of the answer in two minutes, look at bottom of page).

oOoOoOoOoOoO

Love is a fire. But whether it is going to warm your hearth or burn down your house, you never can tell.

oOoOoOoOoOoO

See the happy moron,
He doesn't give a damn!
I wish I were a moron
My gawd! Perhaps I am!

oOoOoOoOoOoO

Little Betty went to the grocery store with her mother, and wanting to get some ginger ale, she said; "Let's get that drink that tastes like when your foot's asleep."

oOoOoOoOoOoO

A man moved to a new boarding house. After a week, he confessed to a fellow boarder that he could never remember the landlady's name. Said the other: "That's easy. Her name is Womack. Rhyme it with stomach. Here's where you get your stomach fed. Womack: stomach."

The new boarder was grateful and the next morning when he came down to breakfast, he called out cheerily:

"Good morning, Mrs. Kelly."

oOoOoOoOoOoO

A Negro employee buttonholed the manager of the Union Station dining room. He asked; "What's this new dee-duction in my check?"

The manager replied that it was for the Victory Tax.

The Negro beamed.

"Boss, did we win?" he asked excitedly.

oOoOoOoOoOoO

As the skunk remarked when the wind changed, "It all comes back to me now."

oOoOoOoOoOoO

General MacArthur likes to tell this one. A child asked his Dad the difference between a Garand repeating rifle and an ordinary rifle.

"There's a big difference," said the Father. "It's just as if I spoke, and then your Mother spoke."

oOoOoOoOoOoO

*Answer to Puzzler: The lady had a transfer.

Circulation
World-Wide

HOPEWELL THIS-'N'-THAT

Limited
Edition

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then and Containing Most
Anything--Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Hopewell, N.J., May 7, 1943

THE EDITOR EXPLAINS

With this issue, "HOPEWELL THIS-'N'-THAT" comes to you in new dress. The change is prompted by the desire to make it more readable, pack more news into the space and also overcome the Editor's problem of producing two dozen or more copies at frequent intervals. After all, some of the carbon copies of earlier issues weren't any help to the eye-sight, as I know all too well. But from now on, (unless someone lets out an awful howl) we hope to have this little newspaper reach you in mimeographed form. As you've probably noticed, much of it concerns people and events connected with the Calvary Baptist Church, so Mr. Johnston has agreed to whirl the cylinder of the church mimeograph whenever I have a couple of stencils ready for him. I'll be glad to know how you like the news in this form.

I've found that the reports on "what the other fellow is doing" seem to have a strong appeal for all the fellows in the service. So whenever you make any move, win a promotion, start a new type of training, have some experience worth mentioning, etc., remember to send it to YE Editor at your earliest convenience.

Shortly, a new issue of the church "Torch" will be hot off the press, and it's to include an up-to-date list of addresses of all who are in the Armed forces. But I've found that there's a realy a week when somebody isn't shifted around, so if you like, I'll try to devote a little space in later issues of "This-N-That" to keep you fellows posted, if you wish. Enough of this--and to the news!

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Tom McCandless is now in Tampa, Florida, after a brief stay at Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina. He's in an Air Force R.D., and somewhere along the way he has picked up about 20 pounds in weight. Ken Burroughs was surprised to be shipped so far South, being at Keesler Field, Mississippi, where he is stationed only a few blocks from the Gulf of Mexico! However, they weren't being allowed outside the field, but I guess the Air Corps Technical School can keep him busy. When he completes "Basic," he expects about five and a half months of college training. Enroute to Mississippi, he went by way of Indianapolis.

Ed Sheppard, who's in the "dish-it-out" branch of the Marines, writes from Camp LeJeune, New River, North Carolina, where he's in Company C, Ordnance Personnel, 4th Service Battalion, 23rd Marines. He finished his course at Quantico successfully, and will be with a regiment now forming. Here's how he describes New River: "It's 90 miles to the nearest city and when you get there, you still are not any place."

Arch Litzén has made a big hop, too. He is now A M M 3/c, Class 28-43-3, U.S. Naval Air Gunners School, Jacksonville, Florida. During his lengthy stay at the Navy Pier, Chicago, they loaded him down with instruction and training. His Air Gunners' School course is a four weeks affair, then comes eight weeks of operational training at some base to complete his aviation training, before going to sea.

....Bill Ayokoff--now there's a fellow who really is in the news. Did you see that item in the Hopewell Herald about Bill having said the right thing to Dorothy Pancoast, and the beginning of big plans for a lifetime partnership? Yep, they're engaged, so here's wishing Bill and Dot extra good luck and lasting happiness. He's been expecting to leave Sampson, N.Y. For a time, he was due for submarine training, but his operation may have changed all that. Bill had a week at home recently....

Bill Snook is back home, having an honorable discharge from the Army. He had been at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, but he has been subject to fainting spells, as I understand it, so they released him. He looks fine. He tells an interesting story about that "digging in" training, where his outfit was given just three minutes to dig a fox-hole for shelter before a tank came running over the spot at full tilt.....

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE (continued)

From Camp Phillips, Kansas, Ernie Blackwell writes that his Company is bivouacked (I looked that one up just to make sure, and it means camping out for the night without shelter) one week out of every month. On the first night out, it rained continuously but Ernie says he likes being out in the field. He finds, as a couple million others have done, that a 60-pound pack doesn't get any lighter.....Bruce Gray, assigned to the 65th General Hospital at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, is doing duty in the receiving and disposition office. Although the hospital has 3,500 patients, he is trying to find enough spare time to take an Army correspondence course in Cost Accounting....Wilfred Gray, out at Chanute Field, Illinois, is up and around the hospital but Army doctors are still checking on his heart. To Bill, it's an old story as he has favored his heart ~~instructor's~~ orders, for quite a few years....Donald Dilts, at Camp Hood, Texas, has had "much too much" of general camp quarantine, but they're keeping him busy learning the tank-destroyer job in all its branches.....

Harold Temple was in town for a few hours last Saturday night and early Sunday morning, making a quick trip from State College, Pa., where he's absorbing Aviation Cadet training...Harold VanLiew has shifted from the Naval Training Station at Sampson, N.Y. to Memphis, Tenn., we hear....Dennis VanLiew, on Desert Maneuvers, knows most of the secrets of the Mojave (let's hear you pronounce it) Desert, but writes that the sage-brush and cactus have been a sight to see. On leave, he's seen Los Angeles; also Boulder Dam and the Grand Canyon; however, he knows all too well that the Army isn't a sightseeing tour, but he adds that "I can truthfully say that we have earned it.".....George O. Phillips, who is a Navy man from way back, is on the Station Force at Davisville, Rhode Island, working at his trade under a branch of Public Works, where they have a staff assigned to provide 24-hour service on jobs that call for an expert in electricity, refrigeration, heating or plumbing.....

"Reg" Hurley sent Mr. Johnston a copy of a church bulletin obtained in Honolulu--and it's the Calvary Baptist Church! He writes that "after the services all who are away from home can eat lunch at the church--very nice." He's in the best of health and spirits. He added that "As long as I have to be this far from home, I might just as well go further on and see some more of the world."

SPECIAL NOTE--Your names are being placed on a Roll of Honor to be dedicated, along with a large service flag, in Hopewell on Sunday afternoon, May 16. The Honor Roll will be placed next to the bank. The Princeton High School band will provide music.

Mr. Ginter, Presbyterian pastor, goes into the Army in a day or so, to serve as a Chaplain. He is to take his training at Harvard University, Boston. The church granted him a leave of absence, and while he is away, will have a supply pastor, I believe. They presented a wrist watch to him last Sunday. His family will remain where they are. He's to be a First Lieutenant.

CHURCH EVENTS

Mr. Russell Riley is giving up his job as Superintendent of the Sunday School. Surprised--well, so was everyone else. He felt he should ease up for personal reasons after being superintendent for 10 years, and active in the department for several years before that. You know, he has really worked at that job, more than most people realize, but he promises to keep busy the same as ever....When he stepped aside last Sunday when the Annual Election was held, the naming of a successor was deferred. However, Paul Stryker and Scott Dansberry were named as Assistant Superintendents, and it may be that Paul will carry on, at least until the Army decides to take him. Roma Weaver continues to handle the job as Secretary and Harry McCandless, the Treasurer's duties.

One of the test "blackouts" hit choir rehearsal last week. Mr. Johnston flashed in to be ready to ring the church bell, and his announcement sure made everyone scatter...The choir did itself proud on Palm Sunday and Easter; then last Sunday they sang "God So Loved the World." Janet Dansberry and Mrs. Orr have "joined up" and help a lot, so the choir numbers 10 to 12 every Sunday now.

Over 150 were in church Easter Sunday morning. At the Candle-light Baptismal service, over 100 were present. Among those who were baptized was Fred VanLiew whose decision to do so, when it would have been so easy for him to have delayed, was an inspiration to all. He had leave from Fort Miles, Lewis, Del., and all rejoice that he has taken this step. Others who joined are Lois Wyckoff, Adele Laning, Doris Dye, Helen Blackwell, Mrs. James Monfort and James Thompson.

CHURCH EVENTS (continued)

The church lawn is graded now, limed and seeded. But what a job! Leon Hill loaned his truck and several loads were brought from Conover's farm before complications developed. On one trip, with Mr. Johnston driving (and also shoveling plenty of the top-soil) a flat tire delayed things. Then on a later trip on the same night, the engine started to limp and they just made it to the church. On the following night, they borrowed a truck from one of Marvin Conover's neighbors. It had no lights so they stopped to get them fixed. Then on the climb up the big hill beyond Hullfish's, the engine went dead and they called Percy Leigh. He found the gas line was clogged and got it going, but it was after dark then, so work had to be halted. But won't the church look lots better, when the grass begins to grow! You should have seen the pastor one afternoon when he was finishing up the job of spreading lime--he was as white as a ghost.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

The "Spot" is closed down. Gus has taken a job with Castanea Dairy. One rumor has it that Louie, the baker, may open up the "Spot" before long. I'll bet the tenants upstairs miss hearing the "juke box" going steadily....The Postoffice looks like a different place, with the walls and ceiling re-painted. The windows have a coat of dark green outside, too.

Measles and chickenpox--the town is still full of them. One day last week, there were only six pupils in the Third Grade. And here's something--one day a teacher had to send home Mr. Wilgus' daughter for that reason--imagine it! the principal's daughter being sent home--but it really happened..... Mayor Metz was seen last week killing time around the counter in one of the stores. After quite a wait, a colored woman picked out a shad and after she was gone, the butcher said, "Now, you can have that shad-roe, Mayor!" So, you can see that even the Mayor has to wait some times.

Young Bill Johnson has been learning to drive a car--with the usual results. He poked the radiator through the rear wall of their garage and it made a nice job for Fred Sutphin. Bill was visited by the delegation from the Fender Benders Association to see if he had qualified for membership, but they concluded that he hadn't earned the right to join, as yet....Ed Savidge is having most of the type for the Hopewell Herald set at the Trenton Times office, this due to his shortage of help since the death of Mr. Figgott.... Paul Cutter, Jr., whose eyes kept him from passing when he was first tested, later registered at New Haven, Conn., was examined and has been assigned to machine-gun training....Jim Brazell (who owned that Austin car) was in from Kansas recently, well-tanned.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Here's one not to ask of your superior officers. How far is it around your head from ear to ear? You don't know? Oh, just around the block.

A thought in case you feel like advising a friend how to pick out a gal--When you're picking a pretty girl, get one with plenty to her. It's far better to have a wife with 200 pounds of curves than 100 pounds of nerves!

IN CONCLUSION

It's time to sign off. Excuse that skipping in my typing, but the typewriter just will work that trick once in a while. I'm attaching a page of alleged jokes (just ordinary typing) as I got these ready before we decided to mimeograph this letter.

Now, to one and all, the best of luck, good health and safe keeping.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL THIS-'N-THAT

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

(Dean H. Ashton, Editor)

No. 6

Hopewell, N. J., May 27, 1943

HONOR ROLL AND SERVICE FLAG DEDICATED

Hallo, everybody! Well, your name is right out on the main street now in letters about an inch high. There's an attractive Roll of Honor set up adjoining the Bank, with a whopping big service flag flying above it.

Your name is there provided---well, that's quite a story and I'm going to tell it as I see it. A lot of us "sidewalk critics" think there have been some serious omissions. It seems that the committee arranging for the Honor Roll had a tough time deciding who should be included and finally they ruled that it would be limited strictly to residents of Hopewell Borough. You can see what that meant--all the Hopewell Township fellows, as well as any who had moved recently from the Borough were "out"--even if they intended to come back when the war is over. For instance, the three VanLiews, Ken Burroughs, Arch Litzen, Jack VanLieu are not listed--to mention only a few.

When I inquired, I was told that it was done that way because Hopewell Township is setting up a similar honor roll at Hart's Corner (yeh, me too, where's that?) and that's exclusively for Township residents. Unless I miss my guess, all the fellows who look upon Hopewell as home would prefer to be listed right there by the Bank. I don't see why they want to be so strict about residence because what harm would be done if some were listed in two different places? (Special note for Ed Sheppard--They've spelt your name as "Shepherd," Ed, but they've already been told about that.)

The service flag really is a whopper. It's eight by twelve feet, with 100 stars on the white field, surrounded, of course, by red. It is suspended from a pipe framework that looks like a glorified hoop from a lawn croquet set. There's a gold star for Irvin VanNest, who lost his life in North Africa. The Honor Roll is about four by six feet, painted white with the names in white on a black background, making them quite readable.

The celebration was held Sunday afternoon, May 16. The Princeton High School Band gave the program a nice send-off. The speakers stood on the Bank steps with Rev. N. Vance Johnston presiding. The crowd seemed to include most everybody in town and nearby. Traffic was halted on Broad Street and the crowd stood on the sidewalk and from curb to curb. It seemed odd, though, to think that it was a patriotic occasion but with few men in uniform being present. Of course, we all understand that, for you fellows are either out where there's a big job being done--and well done, too--or getting that training that will carry you through and give us final victory. There was one sailor present, Jack Sperling, clad in white; two soldiers, one being a friend of Marian Paul (who is working at Raritan Arsenal and so she wears a uniform that looks quite military) and the other apparently one of his chums. Then there were three British sailors, staying near Hopewell for a short while on a "rest farm" while in this country.

It wasn't one of those hip-hooray affairs, however, for we folks here at home are pretty serious about this war business, for many good reasons. We didn't need anybody to get our emotions all stirred up because they're that way already. Besides, we were busy with our thoughts about those scattered all over the world, and what they might be doing at that very minute. The prayers for your safety, your good health, your early return were not spoken as a matter of form but with real fervor. As a matter of fact, Rev. George Young, the Negro preacher, gave the benediction with such sincerity that he came off with top honors for the day. He didn't pray in vague terms but with him it was "I am asking you, Father," and I think that's the kind of praying that really counts.

(HONOR ROLL--continued)

Mrs. Righter, presenting the flag to the Borough as a gift from the Fire Company Auxiliary, made the shortest speech on record in the town. Mayor Metz, plenty nervous and not to be outdone in brevity, accepted and in turn said that Borough Council had provided the Honor Roll. Then Mrs. VanNest, "gold-star mother," pulled the cord to set the service flag flying in the breeze. The rope wouldn't unknot so the flag hung askew for a few seconds. School children sang, Mr. Wilgus directing. The main speech was by Wheeler McMillen, editor of the Farm Journal, who lives on a farm on Stony Brook Road. He's the man who was being talked of for U.S. Senator last year. He read his speech. He told someone later that if he had let himself go, he could never have held it down to ten minutes. Then the band played some more after which they were served ice cream, punch, cookies, etc. at Borough Hall.

So now we feel we are really "in step" with other communities, having an Honor Roll and a Service Flag. The Honor Roll has 91 names on it, from A to Z (that is, from Ira B. Allen to Earl H. Zirkler, the latter being the chap from Montana or Minnesota who married Marian Laning).

Father Thompson hurried away as he had a wedding to take care of right after the ceremonies. Camille Castagnola, who used to work in "The Spot" when George Myers ran it, was being married.

Young David Johnston, of the Baptist parsonage, caught the patriotic spirit and finding a whistle somewhere after the celebration was over, began to blow lustily. It sounded like a police whistle and when his Mother discovered that the whistle was stopping cars now and then, the whistle was put out of sight.

SCHOOL FACULTY GIVES PLAY

The show given by the Grammar School faculty--aided and abetted by a few outsiders--was quite a hit. "Jumpin' Jupiter," it was called. Paul Stryker had one of the chief parts, being a dreamy magazine salesman who was interested in astrology. He was held overnight by some dizzy dames who wanted him to return some ransom money they had received through a blunder. Paul was dreamy, all right, so much so that (believe it or not) he fell asleep on a sofa right out on the stage while there was a pause between two scenes. When the curtain went up, he didn't stir and the audience couldn't figure out why nobody appeared and nothing was happening. Backstage, Mr. Wilgus (school principal) was shouting "Stryker! Stryker!" and finally Paul awoke. He said later that he was in sort of a fog, forgetting that the action didn't start until he got up to walk in his sleep and unlock a window.

Roma Weaver had some good lines and put them over well. Mr. Wilgus was supposed to be a kidnaper but he turned out to be the father of the kidnaped fair-haired damsel. Mr. Johnston, pastor, appeared as a song-writer; Sadie Dansberry was a graduate of a first-aid course who just couldn't wait until she could work out on a "victim." There was a good crowd, so the School Fund did well.

WEART'S STORE TO CLOSE

Elmer Weart has announced that he's going to close up his grocery, meats and fresh vegetables departments on June 30th. That news hit Hopewell like a bombshell last week. To make matters worse, the rumor has been afloat that Moore's and Edling's also would close up. Mr. Moore, however, says he is still undecided and I don't have the latest word on Edling's.

In Weart's case, a number of factors were involved, such as difficulty in getting supplies, lack of help, OPA regulations changing prices and point-rationing so frequently, and a desire to concentrate more of his own time on his farm. A lot of us are wondering just how Hopewell is going to be supplied adequately, because his store did a huge volume of business. Some think that one of the chain stores will step in and take over. As I get it, Weart will still run the hardware end of his business.

What happens to his employees? Well, Sadie Dansberry has taken a job with the Dr. Gallup Poll people at Princeton--in fact, she had the job lined up before Weart made his announcement, as she was anxious to make a change. Willis, the manager, says he may go back South; the butchers were offered jobs with the American Stores people, but say they are going to take a rest; Tracy Hall says he's "goin' fishin'," and so it goes. Of late, it was getting so that nearly everyone looked to Weart to supply their meat--and not too much available even then--so we're left wondering.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

We're trying to assemble photos of every fellow from our church who is in the Service. We've written directly to some, and asking relatives of others to cooperate, so if someone back home mentions it in a letter, you'll understand. We hope to display them on a large cardboard and it really should be something to see! Make sure that we get yours, won't you? Also, we've asked for the route taken by each fellow since he went into the service. If we can get all the information, we hope to display a large map a little later, with colored lines showing where you've been; a pin marking present location and then make the changes as they occur.

Wilfred Gray is home with an honorable discharge. It was rather expected in view of his heart condition. It wasn't anything new to him but when the Army doctors passed him for service, he went at it, hoping he could stand the pace. That's a type of courage that goes unsung, but Bill showed them he was ready to give his best, until his heart protested. He had a long stay in the hospital at Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, as a result. He and his wife have been in church as regular as clock-work since he came back. He is still being checked at the Veterans' Hospital and isn't in shape as yet to take a job.

"Reg" Hurley may be 5,600 miles from Hopewell but he tops the list in keeping in touch with the Editor of "Hopewell This-N-That" It took just 11 days for his card dated May 5 to come through from Honolulu. He appreciates letters saying "It sure makes the time go much faster.".....Ken Burroughs has moved from Keesler Field, Miss., to Birmingham Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama. Ken writes that "Except for K.P., the Army isn't so bad." Sounds as if Ken's training in that Pennington drug-store lunch-counter didn't help much!

Donald Dilts has moved to a new area, so you'll want to note his new address. Now it's Barracks 4302, North Camp Hood, Texas.Bruce Cray knows he's been lucky to remain at Fort Bragg, N.C. and right now he and his wife are living at Fayetteville, N.C. E's hospital connection has given him a chance to see several operations performed--quite different from the days when he was working in the Coca Cola company office in Trenton....Bill Wyckoff was home again from Sampson, N.Y., but he has good reasons--home and then there's his bride-to-be, Dorothy Pancoast.

Lloyd Drake went into the Army about two weeks ago. At last reports, he was still at Fort Dix, waiting the next move. He's going to be missed around the church, out of the choir and taking care of the church collections. His Dad is looking after the funds as the church felt it wanted Lloyd to continue as assistant treasurer. Robert Hill (Leon Hill's son) may be the next in line, as the Board is getting interested in him. Bob's been working up at Flanders, N.J. where Garrett Conover also has a job with a company that makes mining machinery.

Mr. Ginter, of the Presbyterian Church, finishes up his Chaplain's course about June 5 at Cambridge, Mass., and is slated to go to Denver, Colorado, to serve with the Army Air Force...Earl Schomp was home from South Carolina, expecting to go out of the country soon....Harry Erickson (Harbourton) looked happy and in excellent health when he was out to church last Sunday. He was up from Camp Polk, Louisiana, where he's with the "Armored.".....Vernon and Harold Temple have a baby brother and they've named him Gerald Walter.

CHURCH EVENTS

For two Sundays in a row, we've had committees from other churches attending our church to hear our pastor, Mr. Johnston. We don't mind them coming if they want to hear a good sermon, but we feel different if they're wanting to take him away from us. One group was from Baltimore and the other from North Jersey.

Church officers were named at the quarterly meeting held on May 14. The pastor's salary was raised \$100 by granting him a bonus for the current year, and he and Mr. Riley and Marion VanDewater (retiring organist) were praised for the service they have rendered. Those reelected were: Mr. Haines, church clerk; Walter Housel, Fred Sutphen and Edward Jones, deacons; Marvin VanDewater and Marvin Conover, trustees; financial secretary, George Savidge; benevolent secretary, Mrs. James Morrell; organist, Dean Ashton. About 75 attended and enjoyed the covered dish supper, with Mrs. Albert Erickson in charge. The search for a Sunday School superintendent is still on, and that's a real problem.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Dezzie Casey has rejuvenated an old "tin Lizzie," painted it red and is flying around, getting the quarry "swimmin' hole" in shape for a busy season.....Since the "Spot" closed down, Ewing's store is getting most of the ice-cream trade from the lads and lassies....Incidentally, Louie, the baker, says he isn't interested in reopening "The Spot" and all the equipment was moved out last week-end....Lightning hit a pole up on Burton Avenue the other night around midnight and burned out a condenser.....

Mr. Porer still has his front yard piled high with stone for that new front porch to be added to his remodeled home. Looks to me as if stone masons aren't available, as the job has been tied up since last Fall.....Carolyn Larue has taken a job as a clerk in the Kesler & Bellis store....Newell Holcombe pulled a "boner" one night recently that's had him guessing ever since. The cast of the Grammar School play held a little dinner at Titus' and the group included Rev. and Mrs. Johnston. Holcombe was in the place and when he recognized Mrs. Johnston passing near his table, he remarked: "Tell your husband to come out and I'll buy him a drink." Mr. Johnston, when asked later why he didn't appear, said he didn't get the message, and then it developed that it wasn't Mrs. Johnston at all to whom Mr. Holcombe had spoken. Holcombe doesn't know even yet who it could have been!

Mrs. Roy Holcombe's daughter, who is Catherine Cruser, was married recently, the wedding being performed by Mr. Ginter on the afternoon of the day that he went into the service.... Dick Edling has bought a house on West Broad Street, about opposite Newell Holcombe's.....Jack Ginter is "alinging sodas" at Louie's ice cream parlor.... Will Ashton, who has been ailed almost continuously for a year since he suffered a stroke, has sold his apple orchard east of town (on the road to the Lindbergh place) to a man from Long Island, who is working at Bellemead, and the new owner will build soon.....The Pennington quarry is turning out vast quantities of stone and one report has it that the government is taking the entire output.....The Trenton Times still amuses with its carelessness. In the space of one week, they did such things as running a picture of a dessert dish upside down; a map of Can Bon (Tunisia) stating it was likely to be the scene of the Nazi last-ditch stand in Africa, (although all Tunisia had been conquered a week or so earlier) and the same set of comics on opposite pages in one edition!.....Glenn Cox, one of Hopewell's representatives on the District Ration Board, was in a mood to upset a huckster's produce truck in Trenton one afternoon not so long ago when he asked the huckster, who was selling potatoes out of a bag at the time, to let him have a few pounds, and the huckster refused, saying he had to save them for his regular customers (and potatoes really are scarce!)

EDITOR'S NOTES

It's good to know that this little newspaper is being so happily received. Few of the church members have seen it, but one who had told me recently that "If this keeps up, we'll want to subscribe for it, instead of taking the Hopewell Herald." So I'm encouraged to keep going... When you can, feed me some news about yourself, however, since this is intended to be for you and about you. Incidentally, do you read this all in one gulp? If so, try holding it for a few days, then re-read and maybe you'll be glad you did.

NEWS FLASH --EXTRY! Extry!

I just heard that the town's Memorial Day parade has been cancelled. Too many people will be working that day, it's difficult to get bands since fellows like Arch Litzen, Vernon and Harold Temple and others went into the Service. But what a grand parade it will be when that day arrives when peace is restored and all of you fellows will be right in there getting a bit of well-deserved honor. The old home-town will mean a lot more to you, I'll bet, when you can come home to stay, and we're hoping that you'll feel the same way--only more so--toward your church. If it makes you feel good to get the news from home, maybe you'd like to decide here and now that you'll be a "regular" and a worker for the good of the church when you can have that chance again.

Cheerio--the best of luck and what it takes to weather all storms.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON
Editor

HOPEWELL THIS-'N-THAT

Circulation A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now Limited
World-Wide and Then About Your Town, Your Edition
 Church, Your Friends and You

(Dean H. Ashton, Editor)

No. 7 Hopewell, N. J., June 21, 1943

PICTURE DISPLAY IN THE CHURCH

Once again, hello everyone! Here's another issue of the little "newspaper" published exclusively for you, and as a little reminder that your friends in Calvary Baptist Church, Hopewell, are with you, in spirit.

We've had a splendid response to the request for photos of you fellows. Just a few more are to be rounded up and then you'll be "on the map,"--as if you weren't already, in another sense of the word. It's to be a big cardboard, about four by six feet, with red pins marking your present locations, and then a string running to the sides of the maps where the photos and present addresses will appear. We hope to have it ready for display not later than Sunday, July 4th.

Incidentally, they must have wondered in the Hopewell Post Office what was doing, for a letter came addressed to me as "Editor, Hopewell This-'N-That" from The Office of Censorship in Washington. I had written to make sure that my items about "With the Fellows in the Service" were within proper bounds. They O.K.'d them, but suggested that we avoid drawing lines on our map to show the routes you had followed, as that might reveal the pattern of troop movements. So we will forego that idea.

TOWN HONOR ROLL

Since our last issue, I had a talk with Mr. Savidge, of the Hopewell Herald office about the Borough Honor Roll, set up next to the Bank. I had written him a letter repeating to some extent what I had written in this news-letter about excluding some fellows who deserved to be listed there. He agreed that some mistakes may have been made (not his doing, incidentally) although he said it was hard to extend beyond the Borough, for then there was no way to know when and where to stop. I still think, however, that a narrow viewpoint shouldn't prevail in a matter of this kind. They took the list down last week to bring it up to date.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Old stuff, to talk about Memorial Day now? To those nearby, that may seem true but I'll bet that Reg Hurley, way out there in the Pacific, isn't going to protest about news relating to an event that occurred only three weeks ago. The annual Memorial Day service was held in our church, and Mr. Johnston preached a timely, worthwhile sermon, with a number of World War I "vets" present. The choir sang "Sleep Noble Hearts." Earlier in the Sunday School, Bob Copner was called upon to read the Church Roll of Honor. As he mentioned your individual names, he made some special comment, such as the fact that John Dilts had been in the Army exactly three years on that day, and that Reg Hurley might get home on furlough within three months or so.

Since the town parade was cancelled--no gas to haul bands, many folks working in war industries regardless of the holiday, etc--exercises at the cemeteries were quite simple. A firing squad, a color guard, the pastors and a few spectators were on hand for the firing of the volleys, the salute, taps and the prayers.

As elderly Warren Hart expressed it, "I don't believe I ever saw a Memorial Day when so many folks were working." That's it--those who weren't doing war work were busy in their Victory Gardens--and while thoughts to some extent concerned those who had passed on in the service of their country, it really was a day when everybody was thinking of today's soldiers, sailors and Marines,

THE STORE SITUATION

We're still left guessing about the store situation in town. Several prospective buyers have been in to talk things over with Elmer Weart but his plan to close on the 30th of this month still seems to stand. Some thought that Tracy Hall would run a vegetable store there in any event, but he has arranged for a job at Eastern Aircraft where Ed Schenck, butcher, also has been hired. Another story is that Weart will take his frozen-food cabinets up to his farm and sell that line of goods through his milk route. If he does close down, it's a question whether the other stores can handle the demand for goods, especially in the meat line. Meanwhile, Spencer Moore says he intends to close down shortly, too. Les Paul is to stay on at Weart's for the time being, being needed for the final clean-up of stock; John Willis, the manager, will work on Weart's farm; Carl Smith has already left for a job with the L.A. Young Steel & Wire Co. in Trenton; Paul Ashton will work during his school vacation at the U.C.C. in Trenton; young Tom Pancoast will help on the farm and also has a theatre usher job for some of his evenings, and so it goes. The hardware side is to be continued, I believe. Weart said that in addition to everything else, the building would require a new heating system, complete. Louie, the baker, was one of those looking over the situation.

The bakery now shuts down every Wednesday so they can catch their breath. That's a busy place. So many people are buying baked goods (due to sugar restrictions) and ice cream (since the Spot shut down) that Louie and his staff are kept at it day and night.

TOMBSTONES TAKE A TUMBLE

When somebody discovered that tombstones in the Old School Churchyard were being toppled over, some quiet detective work got under way. Several people who took a short-cut at night through that way were startled when a flashlight threw a beam of light in their faces. I hear that they rounded up five fellows who had been involved and set them to work standing the stones up in place again. One report was that one stone weighed 1,700 pounds and with eight persons helping, they couldn't get it where it belonged.

Somebody cut away the hose attached to the air pump at Lamson's Garage and carried it downtown, cutting it into short lengths and using it to syphon gas. So the service station has been without air service, as such hose is pretty hard to get these days.

GRADUATIONS

School graduations are just over. For the first time, Hopewell was represented in the Senior Class at Princeton High. From our church, there was Graham Benson, while Donald "Jake" Dilts was awarded his diploma, although now in the Army. Another absentee for the same reason was Charles Bregenzer. The group graduating included these from Hopewell: Orville Carkhuff, Dot Stout, Hartwell Vannoy, Bill Servis, Tom Pessel, "Buck" Harris Runyon, Marian Rorer, Marie VanArsdale and Bill Lowe.

The Grammar School had an unusual baccalaureate service that finally was called a "community meeting." Father Thompson had been asked to address the graduates, and since he couldn't participate in a religious service other than those of his own denomination, the baccalaureate was changed considerably. It was held in the school auditorium, patriotic songs substituted for the usual hymns-- and the attendance dropped way down.

HERE AND THERE

The movie house has adopted a new schedule, being closed on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The price for adults has been raised from 35 cents to 40 cents. With the driving ban on and police keeping a check on those who do travel, the theatre business in Hopewell isn't too good, except week-ends....The Quarry swimming pool is thriving with activity these days, being just close enough to be handy for the bike riders and walkers, who feel the need for a cool dip....Air raid tests are still quite frequent, with excellent cooperation every time the whistles blow and the church bells ring. One night, with the town well blacked out, somebody must have blundered up at the former Grimes Estate, up on the hill, for lights came on all over the house and it was a minute or two before they were turned off again.

CHURCH NEWS

The pastor, Mr. Johnston, has been keeping "bachelor hall" as Mrs. Johnston, David and Diana went down to Alabama for a visit back home. He has quite a garden, incidentally, using part of a lot where Columbia Avenue bulges back of the movie house. Also, I might mention that he was honored in being asked to preach a sermon when the Central Baptist Association held its annual meeting last week at Somerville. Hopewell's group totaled 17 persons, the largest delegation present.

Bob Temple has a job, mowing that new church lawn. The seed-sowing was timed perfectly to take advantage of numerous rains that followed. On Sunday mornings, folks just stand there after church and admire. A few evergreens and flowering shrubs will be added in a few days to make it even more attractive.

Two handsome flags are now on display in the church proper. They were contributed by the Benson family and Mr. Russell Riley, I believe. While they were being unpacked, someone remarked to Mr. Benson that the American flag was "fine." Mr. Benson had the right answer when he said: "It's the finest in the world!" The Christian flag adds the right touch to the display.

Sadie Dansberry had everyone alarmed. The word went around that she was moving to Princeton. She's taken a job there with Audience Research, Inc., checking up on the likes and dislikes of movie and radio audiences and she likes the work a lot. We were afraid it might mean losing her as choir director. Then we breathed a sigh of relief when we heard that somebody had jumped to a false conclusion. Actually, Sadie was moving from her apartment opposite Weart's Store to live with the rest of the Dansberrys, one block up Princeton Avenue. So, happy to say, she's still with us.

Speaking of the Dansberrys, Scotty is taking charge in the Sunday School, finding himself with a job on his hands since Mr. Riley resigned as superintendent. A new "super" hasn't been chosen and Paul Stryker, elected as first assistant, isn't going to be around to function, so Scotty is next in line, but he's not sure that they will not want him in the Army, instead of in the Eastern Aircraft plant. Scotty does a good job taking charge and also is a big lift in the choir,-- with his voice on Sunday mornings and with his humor at rehearsals. Sample: The other night Scotty said that his youngster "doesn't say much as yet about me being out nights--I leave him home with a pea-shooter so he can fire away at the neighbor's cats--and the neighbors!"

Mr. Riley was seen the other night, dressed in fishing togs, getting off the bus with some of the boys from his class. The Board of Deacons re-elected Mr. Jones as chairman and Mr. Riley as secretary earlier this month. Plans are being made for a Vacation Church School, probably to start about July 4th, although the pastor is having his troubles trying to recruit teachers, as so many people are doing war work in some form. In the church, Children's Day was observed last Sunday morning with a pageant given, coached by Paul Stryker. It was quite good, with Donald Allen and Eleanor Paul having the chief parts.

Oh, yes, the Rummage Sales--I must tell you about them. The women of the church netted about \$50 in this way a short time ago--and cleared out a lot of junk for a lot of people. They have learned to expect most anything but imagine their surprise when they discovered that someone had sent in a second-hand toothbrush. No sale! Up at the Presbyterian Church, they had a little difficulty when they discovered that someone was removing price tags to put lower prices on certain articles they wanted to buy. Right in the church basement, at that!

Bus service has been curtailed drastically in Trenton, to save gas and tires, and Hopewell lost one evening bus temporarily, but it was restored. So Hopewell has fared remarkably well, having service remain "as is." But are the buses crowded for the first half of the trip out of Trenton? Sometimes, patrons just don't get aboard at the terminal nor for several stops thereafter, as most of the short trips into Ewing Township have been cancelled out. Hey--how did this item about bus service get into the church news? The only excuse I can think of is the fact that the buses arrive late in Hopewell, religiously. Let's go to another page and see if I can't do better than that last one.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Who's the latest to go into the service? Well, Bob Hill entered the Navy last Tuesday, and this week it's Paul Stryker, who begins Army training at Fort Dix. Bob Hill (Leon Hill's son) moved back from Stanhope (North Jersey) where he had been working with a mining machinery company and his wife (who was Ina Conover) will have their side of the Hill house where they used to live. In Paul Stryker's case, he knew he would be going as soon as school ended so his wife took a job at Eastern Aircraft a short while back. Paul is going to be missed in many ways--around the school, of course, where he seemed to have the right approach to do a good teaching job, and around the church, of course. His booming bass will be lost to the choir, his work in the Sabbath School and his general willingness to cooperate.

Here are the names of other Hopewell fellows who have just answered the June call through the Pennington board; Raymond W. Burd, 74 E. Prospect Street; Elmer E. Nevius, Hopewell-Wertsville Road; George T. Everitt, 47 West Broad Street; Edwin W. Savidge, 21 Railroad Place; Benjamin C. Hillman, Jr., Mt. Rose Road; Emanuel Staton, 77 E. Columbia Avenue; Nicholas D. Guseppe, Front Street, and Archibald R. Dey, 66 Model Avenue. (All except Burd going into the Army.)

Now for the news about our church fellows. It was a real treat to see Lawrence Hurley and Ernie Blackwell home on furlough from Camp Phillips, Kansas. Lawrence said it was his first trip to Hopewell since December. He looked great. (Note for Ernie Blackwell: Sorry I missed saying "Hello" but we'll do that another time). These two fellows, though in the same camp, are a mile or two apart, so they don't see each other very often at that, but that's Army life, isn't it?

Bill Wyckoff's mail now comes through a Navy censor, as he's at sea on a sub-chaser most of the time. He was on shore a few days ago, and with a few hours available, headed for Hopewell, coming in by taxi from Trenton. Nice going for a sailor, eh, but every minute was valuable. Here's Bill reporting on his new assignment: "I like life on board ship very much and find it also very interesting and exciting. It's everything I expected it to be."

Vernon Temple, down from Boston, spent a few hours at home on Sunday, June 13. Harold Temple, after being rushed through a course at Penn State College, was expecting orders to move South. He's been up for 10 hours of dual flying in a Piper Cub and hitting the high spots in a lot of ground instruction. He finds time, somehow, to play in the Air Corps Band, too. Ed Sheppard, the "fighting Marine," reports that it's "slightly" hot at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He's been signed over to the Fleet Marine Force, the shock troops to land in new territory. He says the Marine Corps training has put him in wonderful physical shape.

Speaking of health, Lloyd Drake has been home for two Sundays in a row and he looks so fine that Mr. Johnston remarked, "I'd almost sign up myself, if I thought they'd fix me up that way." For the time being, at least, Lloyd (they insist on calling him Charles, his first name, in the Army, and half the time he forgets to answer when he hears that in the Barracks) is doing clerical work in one of the Fort Dix offices. Erwin Benson was home from Lewes, Delaware, quite recently and also attended church.

Jack Van Lieu has moved from Fort Logan, Colorado, to Salt Lake City, Utah. There's an Army enthusiast for you! I hope his good fortune can continue. His trumpet playing came in handy while he was at the Salt Lake City Air Base, as they made him a bugler and he thus avoided KP detail. Now he's working in a Replacement Wing Headquarters, handling office detail, living out except for going to quarters at night to eat. He says that Army chow there beats anything he has ever seen served in a hotel or restaurant. Harold VanLieu is in Memphis, Tenn., taking Naval Ordnance training, and Arch Litzen is getting there as an Aviation Machinist's Mate (Navy) at Jacksonville, Florida.

Most of you know Alan Hart, I guess. I talked with him a few days ago, he being home from Florida for a 10-day furlough. He's an Armorer with the Air Force, working on machine-gun and gun repairs, etc. He was sent to an outfit that had seen action in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska, so he's with a bunch that knows what it's all a bout. He's a Corporal now.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 8

Hopewell, N. J., July 12, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Greetings once again--and have you noticed that this little "newspaper"--written for the sole purpose of keeping the service men from Calvary Baptist Church, Hopewell, informed about what's doing back home--has gone "high-hat" on you. Yeppir, look at the new name it's taken. No more of that notion store title, "Hopewell This-~~W~~-That," for if half the compliments flying around are really meant, the least we can do is to make it look dignified. So, it's the "Hopewell News" but it's still to consist chiefly of chatter, come what may.

We're still holding down circulation of the "newspaper," as we want you to feel that it's a special service designed for you. With 26 fellows from the church now in the service (two others given honorable discharges for disability) and a few others who have asked that they be not overlooked, we turn out an issue of 50 to 60 copies now when we "go to press."

PHOTOS ON DISPLAY

The church now boasts of an art gallery all its own. We've had swell cooperation in gathering photos of you fellows, and the display is something to see. Less than half a dozen pictures remain to be put in place around the big map. The good old U.S.A. is in the centre of the green cardboard, done up with a narrow frame, and smaller maps of the Pacific and Africa and Europe on the sides. Red-headed pins (watch out for red-heads, always!) mark the spots where each fellow is located, except a couple whose exact location is a secret, such as John Dilts, somewhere below the equator in the Pacific, and Bill Wyckoff, on patrol duty somewhere in the Atlantic. Then a green string runs from each pin to the photo of each fellow, whose address is supplied below.

There's "Reg" Hurley, wearing a tropical hat; Ernie Blackwell giving a classy salute; Bill Conover standing near a big gun; Vernon Temple looking nifty in sailor's uniform; a swell portrait of Clarence Habeeb; Ed Sheppard, a natty Marine, if there ever was one; The vacant spots awaiting pictures are above the names of Oliver Jenkins, George Phillips, Harold VanLiew, Jack Van Lieu, Paul Stryker and Bob Hill. Shoot 'em along, fellows, or ask someone here at home dig up one, as we want the exhibit to be 100% complete.

SOLDIER WEDS WHILE HOME ON FURLOUGH

Dennis Van Liew, who hadn't been home since last September came home on furlough and took Elsie Hill as his bride. He has a capable wife in Elsie, who ran a church supper last year and did a swell job of it. Not that I expect that Elsie and Dennis will have to set a table for 100 guests or so, when he gets out of the Army and settled back home, though! Dennis came in from Camp Bowie, Texas. His outfit moved down there about a day or so before he got his furlough. Best wishes and lots of luck, Denny!

Correction

Photo of George Phillips received since writing above.

ADDRESS LIST

Enclosed is a revised address list of the fellows in the service. You may want to write to some of them, or at least check up on their whereabouts. Any time you want any special address and want to be sure you have the latest, drop me a line and it will be forthcoming. You know--Dean H. Ashton, 97 W. Broad, Hopewell.

"CRIME WAVE" CONTINUES

In our last issue, we reported about the "tumbling tombstones and the culprits being compelled to set them up again, or face prosecution. There's more "monkey business" going on. Somebody stole \$4 or so from the Hopewell Theatre office and State Police have been checking around. They think that boys secluded themselves until the place had closed for the night, then searched at their leisure and emerged later. At the Grammar School, windows were forced open in two places and rooms ransacked, with a small amount of cash located. Several garden owners have reported that part of their crops have been stolen. Another story is that Mrs. Amos Williamson lost half a dozen chickens--and to make matters worse, they were stolen only a few hours after she had tried to sell them and had been told by the dealer that he would take them the next day.

THE STORE SITUATION

Weart's Store looks queer, with the big windows soaped over and a sign in the door reading "Closed for the Duration." But Elmer shut down on June 30th as announced. But inside, they've been busy packing up the remaining stock--sold, the store has it, to a wholesale grocery firm. Les Paul has taken a job somewhere in Trenton.

Spencer Moore (whose father-in-law, Mr. Reed, has just died after two heart attacks within a few days' time) plans to close his grocery on August 1. He's been offering special lots of goods, to get his shelves cleared. Miller's 5-and-10-cent store, is preparing to move to the store formerly occupied by "The Spot." The interior is being renovated right now.

With Weart closed, Moore no longer handling meat, and a lot of rationed goods hard to get in the remaining stores, the food supply situation is none too rosy. However, there's always a chicken to be had from some nearby farm and gardens are yielding--so there's a minimum of complaining. After all, we aren't having bombs dropped on us nor being pushed around by any invader.

CHURCH NEWS

"It's to be a "Hayride Picnic" for the Sunday School this year, in view of the pleasure-riding ban limiting the use of autos. It will be held on July 24th at the Hullfish's.....The Vacation Church school is now in its second and final week, with more than 50 attending. Children of other churches were welcomed and quite a number have come along. Mr. Johnston and his staff of teachers really do an untold amount of good through this special activity....Mr. Webster, former pastor, was in town briefly, tying the knot for Dennis VanLiew and Elsie Hill, with Mr. Johnston assisting....Mrs. Johnston with David and Diana and Mr. Johnston's Mother, have returned from Alabama. However, the critical illness of Mr. Johnston's sister's husband obliges our pastor's Mother to go back immediately, and the pastor plans to go down for a week or two during his vacation early in August.

Summer union services start in our church on July 25 and the series will continue until September--two held in each of the three participating churches.....Trees and shrubbery for the church lawn have been ordered. If they attract half as much attention as the fine, green lawn, they'll have to go some....Scotty Dansberry is superintending the Sunday School, except when Eastern Aircraft decides he's needed on a Sunday.....Mrs. Higgins, who is always a jolly soul, laughed right out in Sunday School when the picnic committees were announced, including these words, "Mrs. Higgins---Drinking water!"

Talk about manpower shortage--the church ushers handling the collection plates these days usually include Bob Temple and Donald Hullfish, who are about 12 or 13 years old, with Clyde Ashton, who is 10½, pressed into service once in a while....The Beginners' Department in the Sunday School is so crowded with children of varying age that a Nursery Class is to be started, with Mrs. Robert (Ruth) Johnson in charge.

On Fourth of July Sunday, the choir sang Kipling's "Recessional.".....Despite warmer weather, church attendance has held up pretty well. After all, we're really a going concern, with good sermons always assured, a well-planned program and that friendly spirit of Christian brotherhood. We're hoping you will feel that way about it, too, when you're back in town--on furlough or when the war is won.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Ed Sheppard was in town this past week-end, up from Camp Le Jeune, New River, N. C., and expecting that he may go out of the country before long. And say--he has a Corporal's stripe on his arm, and that earned in the Marines, where they don't come at all easy!

Ernie Blackwell (Camp Phillips, Kansas) has moved up to Pfc. Nice going! Earlier, Ernie sent a five-page letter that was more than appreciated by Ye Editor. Ernie stressed that he'd be glad to hear from any of you fellows and promised a prompt reply. His name is on the address list sent herewith. He's been on bivouac some more, with one night when the rain beat their tents down; plenty of heat, water rationed and a 23-mile hike back to camp. He also has had that fox-hole-tank experience, and reports that the tank threw so much dirt his way that he thought he was being buried alive.

Bob Hill, who went into the Navy recently, is at Bainbridge, Md..... Paul Stryker has been lucky enough to remain at Fort Dix, but hasn't been home as yet on leave.....Also, they aren't making Lloyd Drake mad by letting him remain at Fort Dix, too.

Donald Dilts was last reported at Greenville, Pa., out near the Ohio border, after a long hop up from Texas. His guess was that he was due to move elsewhere very soon. He had some "Commando" drills and three days of double-time marching. Incidentally, Donald was the chap who had his tonsils out just one week before he went in the Army, and the tonsil job was designed to cure some leg trouble--but Don must be in good shape, for he writes nary a word about not being able to "take it." His brother, Johnny Dilts, is somewhere far out in the Pacific, on an unidentified island, gets his mail through by air, and reports that he has only two trees to provide scenery, and no women. It will be three years on Labor Day since he went into the service, and Johnny was in Hawaii when Pearl Harbor was attacked.

George Phillips has been up-graded. He's now a Steamfitter, 1/C, in the Navy and on duty at Camp Endicott, Rhode Island.....

Harold Temple is now at Nashville, Tenn., passing his courses right along as an Army Air Cadet. That's a classification center.

Tom McCandless is at Drew Field, Florida, attending radio school, and hoping he can get into the radio operator end of it, rather than the mechanical side. He's attended the Tampa Baptist Church, and found it full on a hot Sunday.

Arch Litzen is finishing up his Navy training. He's been assigned as a gunner on an "Avenger" plane. He has met his pilot and radio man. The pilot is Petersen, a Dane; the radio man is a Russian and his name is Timoshenko--honestly--and Arch, of course, is a Finn. They've been taking all sorts of training hops.

"Reg" Hurley, out in the Hawaiians, sends a card of thanks just about every time he gets a copy of this "newspaper." Since it appears about every three weeks, and it takes about that long for his mail to come through, I usually am hearing from him about when a new issue is just about ready to start in his direction. Nice timing!

Paul Stryker, it should have been mentioned earlier, had a grand send-off from his Grammar School classes when he went into the Army. They handed him a wallet containing \$50.

Here's a few more notes about others that you may know. Rev. Mr. Ginter is assigned to Buckley Field, near Denver, Colorado. He had a few days with an Army Air unit that was about to be shipped out, and when he was ordered to another outfit, the boys raised a howl. That's a tribute in reverse, but the Army moved him just the same.....Going into the service on the 29th are Hartwell Vannoy, Bill Laning and Donald Cray.Alfy Hill, who went in quite recently, decided just before that he'd like to do a high-dive from the top of the Quarry cliff. He made it all right, and just for company, John Crowwell and Jimmy Hall, did the same stunt....Burk Kirby, flashing word from North Air, that he saw the King, also says he's been having swims in the Mediterranean and is now "maroon" in color.... Wilbur Hurley (Stoutsburg) is in Columbia, S. C., with a Bombardment Group, and fortunate in having his wife with him.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL

A troop train stopped in Hopewell. It contained fellows shipped from the West Coast. They asked the name of the town. One then asked Bill Bodine if he knew Lloyd Drake, manager of the A&P. Informed that Lloyd was in the Army, the soldier asked about Lloyd's wife and tried to give his name to Bill Bodine. Bill conveyed the greetings. At first, Ruth Drake wondered if it could be her brother, who had been in Texas, but when the name was recalled, it developed that the message came from her cousin, a chap who had lived close by when she lived in Connecticut.

HERE AND THERE

Restrictions on driving and heavy rains produced a heavy crop of grass for the Hopewell Valley Golf Club. So they went after it with a mowing machine, baled it up and probably sold it to held a sagging treasury. It looked queer, to see bales of hay all over the golf course.... The Presbyterian Church has called a Princeton Seminary instructor, Dr. Edward J. Jurji, as their permanent supply, but the time he can give the church is necessarily limited, aside from Sundays.... The word is that Rev. Mr. Rayner, of the Methodist Church, has indicated that he will move in the Fall. His wife has taken a wartime job ---Eastern Aircraft, it's said....Milk deliveries are every other day, to save gas and tires...Lloyd Drake's wife, who likes to be active, is on a 3-to-11 P.M. shift at Eastern Aircraft.... H. A. Smith has plenty of work and materials, but finds it difficult to get help. Some women are working on automatic screw machines, even though it is a job requiring them to work in oil all day....There's a "For Sale" sign on the Edgar VanSant House, West Broad Street, as he is living with his son, Perce, on the latter's farm...Harry McCandless has a driver's license and Tom's car....Paul Ashton also is happy about having a driver's license, getting his permit on the day he was 17....Bill Johnson is at Cornell, going there June 28. He will be 18 in November.

Several commuters to New York have their morning paper delivered to them at the station platform....Reports have it that Postmaster MacAlinden doesn't like the job any too well, because there's so much routine connected with it....Doc Stults still has a "heavy foot" when he gets out in his car, but he isn't doing 95 as he did when he first bought his present car...D'Iorio, the tailor, closed down, and it's a tough job to get a suit pressed these days. Most of the business when sent out of town, takes at least a week to get back.

Mrs. Gutelius, who brought all of her cats with her when she moved into town from the farm, has just as many as ever, if not more. Sometimes, they turn West Broad Street into an "obstacle course" for unsuspecting car owners....

Two British sailors were sleeping cosily on a Louellen Avenue porch when discovered early one morning. They had encountered "heavy seas" earlier and were still hazy about the location of the farm where they were supposed to be working or resting.....Some of the High School fellows have been helping on nearby farms with the harvest.... The Bensons, who own a cabin up on Sourland Mountain, have been finding that uninvited guests have been there too often. Maybe the new pup, will be turned into a watch dog, or a shotgun oiled up..... That four-man Victory Garden up on Greenwood Avenue is something to see, with a friendly rivalry apparently in progress. Russell Riley is the pace-setter, but Mr. Seibert, Mr. Sheldrich and Mr. Rossiter are going to have good crops, too. Mr. Rossiter, a newcomer in town and associated with Standard Statistics in New York, may finish up with some worthwhile statistics on the percentage of weeds in relation to worthwhile plants produced in a square yard of Hopewell soil.... Rossiter tells a story well about the Englishman who heard the American say that "We eat all we can, and what we can't, we can." When the Englishman re-told it, he said: "The Americans, you know, eat all they can, and tin what they can't!"

Louise Hill was in Wills Hospital, Phila., for an eye operation, reported to be very successful....Glenn Cox, who was on the Pennington gas ration board, is now serving on a Plant Panel in Trenton, as most of the gas allowances of workers are supervised in that way....

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Rastus: "Here's a telegram from our boss in Africa. He's sending us some lions' tails."

Sam: "Lions' tails? What in de world am you talkin' about?"

Rastus: "Read dis telegram. He says 'Just captured two lions. Sending details by mail!'" -----

"So Mr. Editor, you make up all these jokes yourself?"

"Yep--out of my head."

"You must be." -----

IN CLOSING

Take five minutes once in a while to keep me informed about yourself. The other fellow is eager to hear how you're doing, and you'll make the page "With the Fellows in the Service" write itself.

Wishing you, as always, the finest kind of luck, the best of health and a safe return.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. Ashton

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

HOPEWELL NEWS

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 9

Hopewell, N.J., August 3, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hello, everybody--and here's the "News" once again--crammed to the margins with town gossip, facts and other miscellany. As The Editor begins to write, he feels as if he were "bursting" with news--in about the same shape as a busybody who had been out to do her morning shopping only to return home and find that her neighbors had gone away for the day, leaving no one ready to listen.

But the friendly words that continue to come about the way you are taking to the "Hopewell News" makes me believe that when I "spill" the news, it will be seized upon gladly. Some fellows, I find, are sending them back home to their wives or relatives; one copy that I gave to Mr. Russell Riley strayed as far as Titusville, only to be grabbed up and sent to a friend in California, who formerly lived hereabouts. Fred Sutphen even suggests that all the issues should be put in the Hopewell Library, as a War souvenir--but I'm really not turning this out for the library nor the town museum. Hey! Do you suppose he means that it's "dry-as-dust" reading?

Maybe it does take quite a bit of time to get out the "News" but it's being done with only one thought in mind--to have YOU know that your friends in YOUR Church think and talk about you, discuss your experiences as far as they can learn of them, pray for your safe return and good health meanwhile--and really care as one Christian for another.

Most everyone of you is aiding nicely in keeping me posted about your changes of address. Even in the short time since we sent you a new address list, we've had at least seven changes. But we're doing our best to keep abreast of the changes, for we want this paper to reach you without fail--and as promptly as the war will permit. But enough good space has already been used up--so to the news!

CRACKERS AND MILK

Clayton Little, who lived near the Temples until he moved to Pennington, is a salesman for the National Biscuit Company. He hasn't been so busy of late, as gasoline and tire restrictions cut down the deliveries to once a week. So a salesman isn't too busy taking orders. Well, Clay heard that Fred Wyckoff, milk truck driver, wanted to get away for a vacation. So Clayton offered to substitute. And he did--by starting on the milk route about 2 A. M., working until 7 or 8 A. M., then changing his clothes and starting off to take his orders for crackers. Early evening, he hopped into bed for a well-deserved rest. That's the way the home-front is meeting emergencies.

Along the same line, Rev. Mr. Rayner, Methodist pastor, has taken a job at Eastern Aircraft, where his wife also is working. Mr. Rayner, it is reported, may not continue in the ministry when his year ends this Fall. Our own pastor, Mr. Johnston, was thinking about a trip to Alabama, but he now plans to work at the H. A. Smith factory during August, his vacation month, and maybe longer--also handling a preaching assignment on some of his "vacation Sundays."

Speaking of preachers, "Ron Wyckoff, his wife (Ruth Kirby) and three youngsters, have just moved to Audubon, down near Camden. "Ron" gave up preaching down at Tabernacle and Indian Mills and has a job in the Federal Reserve Bank, Phila. He had found that a minister's low salary just doesn't stretch when you have a family and are trying to attend Seminary, too. They'll miss Hopewell, where they've been for several months while he commuted by train daily to Phila.--and they'll be missed, too.

JOHNNY DILTS RETURNS

Johnny Dilts is home, all the way from -----but he "ain't tellin" so all we can call it is Island X, somewhere far out in the Pacific. It's been just about three years since he last saw Hope-well, and was he glad to see his folks, the town and everybody! But he still cannot get over the fact that kids grow up, and some of the fellows like Jimmy Hall who were "little shavers" three years ago have been coming along all this time. And the food--well, Johnny told his Mother that he just wasn't use to home-cooked food and had almost lost his taste for a lot of good things that we take for granted.

After about three weeks, Johnny reports back on the Pacific Coast for re-assignment. His three-year enlistment runs out in September but he's going on to do his part to help finish up the job. John, you know, was at Pearl Harbor when the Japs gave it a pasting, and although he isn't saying too much about what went on, we do know that he was in plenty of danger, saw others lose their lives while he went on doing his job on a switchboard where things were far from quiet.

As soon as he hit California, Johnny sent word home. He had come in from that mystery island by plane and boat--a trip of several thousand miles. After quarantine on the coast, he came through by train, arriving hot and worn out last Sunday morning. His Dad, reached by phone, said he'd drive down at once but John --anxious as he was--told him to save his gas! So he came on by bus, but tired as he was, there was no sleep that day for his friends have been calling to see him at all hours of the day and night. He's changed a lot, grown older from responsibility and experience.

His brother, Donald, stationed for a month or so in Western Penna. at a Replacement Depot, talked to John by phone, and travel-weary as John is, he plans to go with his parents to see Donald at Greenville, Pa. What a reunion that will be. Incidentally, Donald thinks he may be reassigned, after getting all set to "go places."

Hopewell also is having a look at Earl Nickerson, Lieut. in the Air Corps, home from New Guinea--and a short time back Herbert Butcher, Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve, safely back from Britain.

MISSING

The town is full of speculation about Bob Burd, his wife and youngster. He was home on leave and the group started back. If the stories can be credited, Bob hasn't "returned to base" and is being widely sought. It seems he overstayed once before, but friends are hoping that this is cleared up O. K.

WHAT A PICNIC!

Even a Sunday School picnic runs into wartime difficulties these days. But the Calvary Baptists, of Hopewell, have a reputation for carrying things through, and the picnic was no exception. The ban on pleasure-driving was still in effect, the price for watermelons for the usual speed contest was out of sight; ice cream was hard to get, and most everybody was busy with extra jobs, canning, etc.--but the picnic came off on Saturday, July 23 and was a real success. It was held at the Harry Hullfish's. Some of the smaller children were missing as there's a lot of whooping cough around--and plenty of whooping. Cliff Higgins was behind the wheel of Mr. Ed Jones' truck to turn the trip into a straw-ride. What did it matter if the truck did say "Burial Vaults" on the side--it was good fun. Ed Sheppard was missed, as he usually chaired the picnic, but that job will be waiting for him when he comes back from the Marines. Instead, Mr. Riley and Scott Dansberry supervised the program. After eats had been downed, the Single Men (boys not old enough to be in the Army but still thinking they are pretty "hot" as ball players, took on the Married Men. Naturally, the Married Men had to have some wives to tell them how to proceed, so the score finally stood about 33-20, in favor of the Single Men when dusk arrived. The cows in the pasture where the game was played were pretty well perplexed by the strange doings.

Oh, yes, you'll want to know how the Water Committee--Mrs. Higgins--made out. It seems she got that big assignment so the kids would not be at the Hullfish well constantly, getting careless with the dipper, etc. Even at that, she was so busy that she reported later that "I didn't have a drink myself the whole day!" After dark, a musical program concluded the picnic, and Sadie Dansberry sang "The Bird on Nellie's Hat." It was quite a hit--and as an encore she sang a couple verses as a parody about Mr. Riley "getting after" the teachers and Mr. Johnston preaching "Give until it hurts!"

GOING TO MARKET

The Hopewell housewives are still trying to adjust themselves to the situation since Weart's store closed up. The supply of foods has been far from adequate, and a lot of business has shifted to Pennington and Princeton and Trenton. Pressure is being put on OPA to see that Hopewell gets its proper quotas, since the shortages go beyond the troubles caused by ordinary rationing. Some people say they have asked in Edling's for hamburg, and been told that "I'm keeping it for my regular customers" and Leming has said that he cannot take on any of Weart's former customers. Elmer Weart is busy farming, his OPA headaches over for the "duration." The American Store has been asking Newell Holcombe about the use of his plumbing shop but no signs of the window being cleared out--and maybe that would be asking too much. Spencer Moore says he'll be open until August 15th, at least. Miller's 5 and 10 has just finished moving into a spic-and-span store, all re-decorated so you wouldn't know that "The Spot" ever existed there. D'Iorio, the tailor, is opening up on Fridays and Saturdays for pressing only--so "the well-dressed man" of Hopewell isn't going to be entirely inconvenienced any longer.

REACHING OUT

What do you think of this? Last Summer, the Beginners' group in the Church Vacation School worked on books that might be of interest to other children. They pasted in pictures, verses, songs, etc. Some of the books went to Trenton hospitals, the Children's Home, etc, but a few were sent to Baptist headquarters in New York, marked for transmission to Assam, way up in the northeastern part of British India. The missionaries there are from North Jersey and known to some of our church people.

Now a letter has just come through--written back in April. Mrs. Ida Merrill, who works on the mission field with her husband, who is a doctor, writes that the hand-made books--a gift of Hopewell children to native children in Assam--were more than welcome. They were in such demand that they finally hit upon the plan of giving one page of each book to the oldest sister or brother of each family. How's that for doing a friendly deed half-way round the world?

And while I'm on this subject, similar books were made this year and Mrs. Swertfeger, taking her two boys to St. Francis Hospital for tonsil operations, took one with her for delivery there. When her boys got restless while waiting, what did she do but go and get the picture books and read from them--this time, it being the work of Hopewell children that benefitted Hopewell youngsters. By the way, how'd you like to be a doctor's child and be told that the tonsils had to come out. No appeal from that decision, eh?

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Vernon Temple (Navy) was home a short time back. His training in Boston was finished, and he reported at Norfolk for an aboard-ship assignment. He'll be working below decks.

Arch Litzen, home for a few days right now, up from Florida, reports to Atlantic City, shortly to go aboard an aircraft carrier, in all likelihood, and from then "on in," working out as a plane gunner.

Lloyd Drake (he's "Charles" in the Army) knew he would be moved from Fort Dix and when it happened, he was shifted to Miami Beach, Florida. He's training with an Air Corps Ground Squadron.

Paul Stryker, with a week-end pass signed and in his possession, got word to pack up to move, and he never did get home. That was a big disappointment all around. His train headed West and he has landed at Camp McQuaide, California, located on Monterey Bay, about 100 miles below San Francisco! He is assigned to Coast Artillery.

Bob Hill comes home shortly after finishing "boot" training in Maryland. His wife, Ina Coover went down to see him two or three week-ends.

Tom McCandless finds himself shifted to the Medical Detachment of his Bomber Squadron at Drew Field, and likes the new deal as far as driving an ambulance and a jeep are concerned, and he has hopes of being shifted again.

Harold Van Liew, at Memphis, Tenn., has been getting plenty of trap- and skeet-shooting, doing some of it after "chow" at night. He also has been getting instruction on gun installations in planes, such things as taking an aircraft machine gun apart and putting it back together again in three minutes, blindfolded! He attends church with an all-sailor choir and "what attendance records."

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE (continued)

HARRY ERRICKSON, maneuvering in Texas and Louisiana, thinks life in the field is much better than in camp, even though they are crowded a bit by four of the most deadly variety of snakes. That's Harry all over--for there's a fellow who always was happiest when he was living an outdoor life. As Joe Drake remarked when he heard about what Harry had written, "Why, if they gave him nothing but a fishhook, he'd be able to look out for himself!"

Jack VanLieu, last in Salt Lake City, certainly gets around. His latest move brings him nearer home, and he thinks that's great, even if his present address is Illinois College, located in Jacksonville, Illinois. He expects to get college work in Civil Engineering, if he can make the grade. The basic course would run nine months, and the advanced course another nine. To start, Jack expected he'd be moved back from PFC., which he had attained in the Army Air Force.

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HERE AND THERE

Down at the Quarry swimming pool, a Marine (not from Hopewell) tried a dive from up the cliff and threw his shoulder out of place when he hit the water at a queer angle...Janet Dansberry, working at Louie's Bakery, thinks that jelly doughnuts are a "mess" to handle...The shuffle board court on Doc Pierson's lawn is taking plenty of punishment these warm nights...Garrett Conover, Jr. has been in the hospital up at Dover, with severe abdominal pains but he escaped an operation...Dr. Vaughn's wife runs out to the farm quite frequently to drive the tractor to help her brothers, Arthur and Herb.

THE TABLES TURNED

A luncheon club member decided it was time to turn the tables on the club's practical joker. So he called up the fellow's wife and arranged to borrow her best piece of silver--a serving dish worth nearly \$100. With it well wrapped, he made a glowing speech at the next luncheon in honor of a man "whose faithful service deserves reward." Then he called the practical joker by name. The latter was plain suspicious. But when he opened it up, he was startled. So they were serious after all, he realized.

"I really don't deserve this," he mumbled. He couldn't wait to tell his wife by phone how he had been honored. "The most wonderful present," he said, "Why, they even had my initials carved on it."

"Yes, dear," she said patiently, "And when you come home, you can put it back on the shelf it came from."

Time to close. Write when you can, and best of luck to you always.

DEAN H. Ashton, Editor.

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Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 10

Hopewell, N. J., Sept. 1, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hi, there--as they say up in New Hampshire from which I returned early last week. In Boston, I saw more sailors than they have in the entire Italian Navy, or at least it seemed that way. Back home I found the town as dry as a chip--excepting Ockelmann's and Gebhart's --because of a longspell without rain. However, the gardens brightened up after a day of rain last Friday. The leaves are beginning to fall, however; days are getting shorter and the women-folk are talking in terms of hundreds of cans of vegetables set away for the Winter.

BLOCK DANCE HELD

A lot of shoe-leather was worn off at the block dance held last Saturday night on Broad Street in front of the Baptist Church. As a dance-floor, it probably wasn't so hot but they were doing the "Lindy Hop" and such as if they could ask for nothing better. The affair attracted quite a crowd, being put on by the Firemen's Auxiliary and the Firemen to provide a little diversion.

Of course, the lights went out at least a dozen times, apparently the load being too heavy. They were strung between trees on the Bank and Dr. Pierson's side of the street. The orchestra consisted of fellows including Earl Hubbard, Harry McCandless, Graham Benson, etc., from around town. They had a hurry-up call at the last minute when the original orchestra took another job. The crowd seemed to like it, the church steps being crowded with spectators, and the space between the sidewalk and curb strewn with soda-pop bottles when it was all over. Traffic was detoured, of course, and local police were in their joy--having a crowd to handle. One dog seemed to enjoy mingling with the dancers.

FBI AGENTS SEARCH THE TOWN

A lot of sleuthing has been going on, as FBI agents and railroad detectives worked out on the "Troop Train Mystery." They've been trying to fix the blame for a queer accident that involved injuries to a soldier as his train went through town one morning about 5.30 A.M. But like all FBI check-ups, the findings haven't been disclosed. The soldier had a fractured skull and went to a Phila. hospital. The missile, they say, went in one window and out another. In checking along the route, the investigators spent quite some time around the "H.A." factory.

LOUIE BUYS OUT WEART'S CORNER PROPERTY

There must be money in cakes and buns. At any rate, Louie Gerhardt has bought the entire corner property including Weart's Market, the hardware store and the garage space occupied by Norman Blackwell. As reported in the last "Hopewell News", Louie is getting ready to open up Weart's Store but nobody expected that he would be buying property on such a lavish scale. But it's the hard-working boys that get ahead, you know.

The store is to be a Self-Service market and Louie thinks he can be ready by Oct. 1. Originally, it was planned to open up around Labor Day, if possible. However, renovating is taking time, the job including some new windows on the east side; new shelves, etc. The removal of the sign reading "Closed for the Duration" is some encouragement, however. Louie and Martha (his wife) took three days off this week, to rest up for the rush to come. They've ceased baking for the time being, but may resume after the Self Service Market gets well established. Right now, their baked goods come from Breece's Bakery in Trenton. The bakery will be continued.

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A luncheon club member decided it was time to turn the tables on the club's practical joker. So he called up the fellow's wife and arranged to borrow her best piece of silver--a serving dish worth nearly \$100. With it well wrapped, he made a glowing speech at the next luncheon in honor of a man "whose faithful service deserves reward." Then he called the practical joker by name. The latter was plain suspicious. But when he opened it up, he was startled. So they were serious after all, he realized.

"I really don't deserve this," he mumbled. He couldn't wait to tell his wife by phone how he had been honored. "The most wonderful present," he said, "Why, they even had my initials carved on it."

"Yes, dear," she said patiently, "And when you come home, you can put it back on the shelf it came from."

Time to close. Write when you can, and best of luck to you always.
DEAN H. Ashton, Editor.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 10

Hopewell, N. J., Sept. 1, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hi, there--as they say up in New Hampshire from which I returned early last week. In Boston, I saw more sailors than they have in the entire Italian Navy, or at least it seemed that way. Back home I found the town as dry as a chip--excepting Ockelmann's and Gebhart's --because of a longspell without rain. However, the gardens brightened up after a day of rain last Friday. The leaves are beginning to fall, however; days are getting shorter and the women-folk are talking in terms of hundreds of cans of vegetables set away for the winter.

BLOCK DANCE HELD

A lot of shoe-leather was worn off at the block dance held last Saturday night on Broad Street in front of the Baptist Church. As a dance-floor, it probably wasn't so hot but they were doing the "Lindy Hop" and such as if they could ask for nothing better. The affair attracted quite a crowd, being put on by the Firemen's Auxiliary and the Firemen to provide a little diversion.

Of course, the lights went out at least a dozen times, apparently the load being too heavy. They were strung between trees on the Bank and Dr. Picerson's side of the street. The orchestra consisted of fellows including Earl Hubbard, Harry McCandless, Graham Benson, etc., from around town. They had a hurry-up call at the last minute when the original orchestra took another job. The crowd seemed to like it, the church steps being crowded with spectators, and the space between the sidewalk and curb strewn with soda-pop bottles when it was all over. Traffic was detoured, of course, and local police were in their joy--having a crowd to handle. One dog seemed to enjoy mingling with the dancers.

FBI AGENTS SEARCH THE TOWN

A lot of sleuthing has been going on, as FBI agents and railroad detectives worked out on the "Troop Train Mystery." They've been trying to fix the blame for a queer accident that involved injuries to a soldier as his train went through town one morning about 5.30 A.M. But like all FBI check-ups, the findings haven't been disclosed. The soldier had a fractured skull and went to a Phila. hospital. The missile, they say, went in one window and out another. In checking along the route, the investigators spent quite some time around the "H.A." factory.

LOUIE BUYS OUT WEART'S CORNER PROPERTY

There must be money in cakes and buns. At any rate, Louie Gerhardt has bought the entire corner property including Weart's Market, the hardware store and the garage space occupied by Norman Blackwell. As reported in the last "Hopewell News", Louie is getting ready to open up Weart's Store but nobody expected that he would be buying property on such a lavish scale. But it's the hard-working boys that get ahead, you know.

The store is to be a Self-Service market and Louie thinks he can be ready by Oct. 1. Originally, it was planned to open up around Labor Day, if possible. However, renovating is taking time, the job including some new windows on the east side; new shelves, etc. The removal of the sign reading "Closed for the Duration" is some encouragement, however. Louie and Martha (his wife) took three days of this week, to rest up for the rush to come. They've ceased baking for the time being, but may resume after the Self Service Market gets well established. Right now, their baked goods come from Breece's Bakery in Trenton. The bakery will be continued.

THE FOOD SITUATION

Meat is still pretty scarce, especially beef, while butter has almost completely vanished during the past few days. Some of the Hopewell stores were handing out a quarter-pound to a customer. As one man said, "I only come in to the stores once a week, and how is a quarter of a pound of butter going to do for four people for a week?"

Spencer Moore let it be known that he would have a good stock of beef last week-end and did he do the business! He's decided to stay open, after all his uncertainty, and has a beef house that has promised to keep him supplied.

The tailor shop-D'Arcio--has cut down Saturday hours from 9 A.M. to 1 P. M., so Jim can get away by noon-time. His Eastern Aircraft job shift starts earlier, it seems. The Miller 5-and-10 is now going strong in its new location next to Cutter's Drug store.

ELECTIONS COMING ALONG

Daily papers report that ballots have been sent to the fellows in the service. It must be an odd sensation to be casting a vote from some distant spot--that is, if the County Clerk's address list was up to date enough to get the ballots through to you.

Hopewell's elections resemble those in some Southern States, where you're as good as elected when you're nominated. Hopewell goes that one better, this year at least. As soon as the nominating petitions were filed, that seems to have settled it. In other words, Mayor Metz has no opposition, and the same goes for Newell Holcombe, Fred Peterson and George Clark, running for Council, and William Corbett, running for assessor.

UNION SERVICES END

The final Union Service was held in the Methodist Church last Sunday morning, with Mr. Raynor preaching. He spoke as if it was sort of a farewell for him, since he does plan to end his work with the local church very shortly. The three churches do unite again on Sept. 12 for an evening service, to mark the resumption of Fall activities. That will be in our church, with special choir music.

Incidentally, the three churches have the "fixing-up" fever. It's surprising how much better the Baptist Church looks with evergreens and shrubbery planted. Several bushes are placed at the back to cut off the view of the garage eventually. The Presbyterian have removed some of their huge evergreens to replant smaller trees near the entrance. At the Methodist Church, some new gutters are being placed on the roof.

TOMATO CANNERY OPERATING

There's plenty of black smoke pouring from the chimney of the tomato factory these days. The crop is moving in that direction, most of the farmers making at least one picking. Some of the fellows went out one morning to help with the picking, when work at the plant was a little slack. The business is under new management this year.

CHURCH NEWS

For Pastor Johnston, it's been a busy Summer. He finally got down to Wildwood for three or four days last week, but that trip came unexpectedly. David and Diana have had the whooping cough--like almost every youngster who attended the Vacation Church School--so the doctor recommended sea air for them. Mr. Johnston preached two Sunday during his August vacation, at Rightstown and also down in Maryland. But he was busiest because of a job he took at "H.A.'s" to make use of his vacation time. He worked on valves over in the old building, and was right in the oil most of the time. Some employees couldn't get over the novelty of having a preacher working with them. They usually said, "The job isn't bad, if you don't mind the oil and dirt." The company has been advertising for help since he left--so he must be missed.

There's confetti on the church lawn. It was thrown around on August 22nd when Virginia Bainbridge changed her name to McCarthy. The choir has held get-togethers right along through August, and is in good shape, except for the lack of strong basses and tenors. Harry McCandless, Paul Ashton and Graham Benson have worked out a new way to take care of the problem. Graham can go down lower than the others, so he is under instructions to sing extra loud on the "cellar notes; Paul is to bear down on the middle notes, while it's left to Harry to come through good and loud when it's D or E--but above that, they just shrug their shoulders!

Sixty-one in Sunday School last Sunday--the end of the "off" month. Mr. Russell Riley took charge through August, since Scott Dansberry is working Sundays and the pastor, who had been stopgapping it, was on vacation.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

All good things come to an end, and so it was with Johnny Dilts' furlough. If he had stayed out on that "Island X" in the Pacific, he'd be a Staff Sergeant now, but Johnny preferred to see Hopewell. He reported back in California as ordered and now is awaiting developments. Like an "old Army man," he let it be known that he hoped he would be with others who had been in awhile, rather than green rookies. While at home, John told of Jap prisoners who came on the same ship. They thought the Japs were winning the war and had taken all the territory between California and Ohio! He told how at Pearl Harbor two chums were speaking to him one moment, and in the next, they were dead at his side, victims of the enemy planes that swooped almost to the ground. He also saw a vegetable truck, driven by a Japanese sympathizer, that came through the entrance to one of our air fields and went along a long line of American planes, wrecking the rear elevators and rudders so they were useless. Seeing things like that, it's easier to understand why some American troops tried to get the censor to pass packages to be sent to friends back home, said packages containing such items as Jap ears and teeth! Johnny also told a yarn about a flying instructor, who first saw a very correct landing made by an airplane, and remarked: "Hm! An aviator from West Point." Then a second plane landed, coming in fast and making it a slap-dash affair. Seeing that, the instructor enthused: "Hm! A flier!"

Reading between the lines, Vernon Temple's folks think he's aboard a ship that has gone through the Panama Canal. He's a fireman serving below decks, of course. Writing home, he mentioned that he might have a chance to see a cousin (who is in Hawaii).... To make certain that we had the right photo for the church display, Maletta Cox sent two or three all the way to California so her husband, Oliver Jenkins could make the choice!.... Ken Burroughs, training at Birmingham Southern College, Alabama and getting flying training, has a notion that he may see California one of these days. He turned out a neat skit that was presented at the Cadet Club and made quite a hit.

Bob Hill managed to get home for two week-ends in a row, but expects to hear most any day of being moved from Bainbridge, Md. He is in line for a Machinist Mate's Service School, and that may be Michigan for him. He looks tip-top in Navy garb, but he had to lose that mustache of his.... Harold Temple has moved from Nashville, Tenn. to Maxwell Field, Alabama. He's in Squadron A-1, and here's hoping that means just what it says.... Tom McCandless has just gone back to Drew Field, Florida, after more than a week around home. He is in the Air Corps Tech. Supply and heartily glad that he's out of the Medical Detachment. His brother, Harry, had to ease up on using Tom's car for the duration of Tom's stay, as Tom did a bit of buzzing around, but Harry's back at the wheel again now.

Jack Van Lieu could hardly make himself believe that he was really back in Hopewell early in August, on a seven-day leave that came through most unexpectedly. He came through from Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill. and only regretted that his wife was still in Salt Lake City. She had remained there until Jack had a chance to look over things in his new location. He earned his special leave by passing the first set of exams prior to special courses in civil engineering. While Jacksonville, Illinois, was hot, he said that the group there was getting a royal reception, being the first sent into the town. A fellow in uniform couldn't walk half a block before being offered a ride into town, he declared. Only two officers were on the spot and he was housed in a dormitory, much better than the college gym that soon won the nickname of "Roach Hall."

Arch Litzen, at last reports, was on Roanoke Island, off the coast of North Carolina. He had been home, up from Florida, going to Atlantic City, Norfolk and then to the island. He expected to be assigned to one of the newest and best aircraft carriers.... Ed Sheppard made a major move, going from North Carolina to Camp Pendleton, at Oceanside, California. When he writes again, he'll have to tell us where that is on the map. Ed was glad to live in barracks again, for he had been four months in tents. Also, the hilly country and better climate appealed to him, even though he really is in the desert.... Bill Wyckoff, S 1/c, has been places! He's up-graded, assigned to a larger ship and aiming still higher. He had a trip across and saw Casablanca, Spain, Gibraltar and Bermuda, his convoy going through to Sicily where he arrived at invasion time.

That seems to just about cover the news of fellows from our church. But follow along for there's more on the other side about a few of the fellows from around town.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE (continued)

There is more news from our church group, after all. Oliver Jen- is in a California Army hospital and x-rays have been taken searching for the cause of his trouble. Also, Ernie Blackwell has had some sort of stomach trouble and also has been having hospital care. His wife had planned to visit him, so the trip was opportune. Bruce Cray's hospital unit has been on the move, and he is at Fort Devens, Mass. at present but it looks like an ocean trip just ahead. Earlier, he was at Camp Shanks, N.Y., but his 15 months at Fort Bragg, N.C. weren't bad at all. Incidentally, Bruce's train went smack through Hopewell but no stops made, and Bruce caught a glimpse of Harry Wilson but no one else he knew--that's the irony of it, for you

Now a quick look around town. Sad days for Commander Herbert Butcher, who came back from the British Isles a short time ago. He and his wife went to Notre Dame a short while ago where he is teaching but his wife, in one of those unexplainable acts, jumped from a window to her death. It had been thought that his return might end her melancholia....Bill Lanning, the drummer, is in California, being whizzed out there almost as soon as he got in the Army....David Danberry, over where they've been chasing the enemy, was slightly injured, he wrote to his Mother....Bill Stout, Navy flier, was married recently at Bernardsville. He's been snifted from pilot duties, and probably will be an instructor, owing to sinus trouble and ear trouble, caused by a broken ear-drum during a power dive....Aul Cutter, Jr. is said to be the only Jersey boy in the 75th Division.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Alden Lewis, of Princeton High, has worked all Summer at H.A.S. Since the town now has only one taxi, Ed Ashton drives 1,000 to 1,200 miles a week--slowly, of course, and wondering how he is going to make his ration coupons stretch....Jack Ginter has been the busiest fellow in town this Summer, havin' farm jobs and lawns to cut in the daytime, dipping ice-cream in the bakery at night and now helping at the tomato factory. Still he found time to go with Bill Bodine to Blair Academy for a Youth Conference....Bill Bodine was all keyed up by week-end maneuvers of the Civil Air Patrol at Blairstown, where he had a chance to be in the air for half an hour, and try the controls of a plane....Mrs. Elitha Blackwell is working in the Ration Board office at Pennington. Mrs. Embley had a job there for a while, before switching to the War Production Board branch office in Trenton....Marvin Conover has improved his home up "on the mountain" by covering it with asbestos shingles but is trying hard to find a painter to do the trim....Fr. Wilgis, school principal, may not return, it being reported that he likes his Summer job so well that he may remain with the Baldwin-Hill insulation firm in Trenton. He's been on a night shift. About half of the Grammar School teachers are not returning, creating quite a problem for the School Board.

Pastor Johnston, subbing for Paul Stryker as Adult Advisor for the Grammar School 4-H Club, helped the group get ready for an afternoon and evening snow on the School grounds....Most of the telephone wires have been painted--yes, painted--to recondition them, the job being done by an employe carrying a long pole, with a small can of paint and a revolving wheel and brush that he moved along the wires--a clever device....Dot Stout starts the study of nursing this Fall. Walter Savidge is missed at the Herald office, but now he's in an Air Force Band at Keesler Field, Miss....Yes, yes, Bob Burd (to end the mystery about his whereabouts) was in town, so apparently he didn't disappear as rumored....Boys' underwear always was short, but it's even shorter now--in fact it can't be bought in the Trenton stores....Jake VanDoren is in bad shape, having fallen from a plank walk in front of an elevated lumber bin and fracturing his hip in two places....And Howard Stryker, the grave-digger, has a bad case of rheumatism....Scott Danberry, Jr. has moved to Ege Avenue, having the house where Virginia Holcombe was living, until they moved across from Cutter's drugstore.

IN CLOSING

One of our keenest Victory gardeners contributed this poem:

They stand together...gray-haired Father, youngest son...
And gaze with pride upon a job well done.
These fields of grain, grown golden in the Sun,
Are their rich contribution to the cause.
There are no waving flags, no wild applause
Yet, in this pause from chores, Here in the dying light of day
Each denied chest swells with a sense of pride it cannot
And through the veins of each a satisfaction runs, hidden;
Knowing that they who were left Behind are keeping stride
With those who are carrying guns!

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Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 11

Hopewell, N. J., Sept. 22, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hello to everyone--and my assurance that the desk is loaded down with news for you. I could name scores of your friends who would be delighted if they could say to me right now, "Tell the boys that we keep thinking of them--that we miss them--and hope it will not be a great while longer before they're back with us." Also, I get all sorts of encouragement about this News-Letter because it has come to be regarded as the "Voice of Calvary Baptist Church" in carrying friendly words to you. I hope you'll continue to enjoy it, and my thanks to everyone who writes to me. As yet, I haven't had anyone "cancel" a subscription--in fact, sufficient copies of this issue are being run off by the pastor, Rev. H. Vance Johnston, on his trusty mimeograph machine, so we can supply everyone in the church congregation who may wish to see it. They drove me to it, for I found that copies were being passed around and yet a number of friends weren't seeing it at all. Meanwhile, I take pride in the fact that this edition will reach out into 17 States--four fellows from our church now being in California, excluding two in the Pacific who only use California for a mail address. Also, I hope it will catch up eventually with one or two who are taking care of some business out in the Atlantic.

RAILROAD TRAINS RUN WILD

What would you think if someone declared that they saw a Penna. Railroad train going through Hopewell, or heard the moaning whistle of an Erie locomotive? Well, all of that happened about two weeks ago. A "Pennsy" electric engine--despite all its haughtiness--was pulled over the Reading lines by a Reading freight locomotive--of all come-downs--along with a string of Pennsy passenger cars. Also, the Erie whistles were really hooting in Hopewell. It all came about as the consequence of a very serious crack-up at Frankford Junction, near Phila., in which more than 80 persons were killed. The wreckage blocked the tracks and railroaders resorted to some wild plans to get the traffic through. A lot of Phila.-New York traffic out of Phila. was routed to Camden and then up on the Jersey side, and the Erie engines had the town agog, because the whistles just "didn't belong."

ANXIOUS DAYS

Sad news came to Marion Laning Zirckler but fortunately a somewhat brighter turn of events occurred. Word was received that her husband, "Bud" Zirckler--a Minnesota lad who wooed and won during his stay at Fort Dix--was missing in action in Sicily. The message reached town right after Marion had left for the east to visit his people. Then came those anxious days of waiting. During the past week, a letter arrived informing Marion that "Bud" is in a hospital in North Africa. That eased the tension somewhat but everyone shares her desire to learn full details as soon as possible.

TOMATO CROP DAMAGED

Tomato worms--fat, green cusses two and three inches long and ugly as sin--have been playing havoc with farmers' tomato fields. The yield for the canning factory was reduced as a result, for the worms eat all the green vines, then the green tomatoes. With ripening tomatoes on the vines, the growers didn't dare use poison. In desperation, some tried to gather the worms from the vines. Jack Voorhees had five gallons of them in no time at all. Marvin Conover counted 71 worms on four plants. Going over a half-acre of late tomatoes, he filled a 10-quart pail with the worms. Still, the canning factory has handled a big volume of tomatoes, sending off that familiar odor that is all right if you're just passing by, but a little disturbing to your "inners" if you're working at the H.A. Smith factory or in the cannery itself.

GRAND OPENING

There'll be meat on the table and more groceries on the shelf hereafter--we hope--for the GRAND REOPENING of Weart's Market took place today. Louie Gerhart, the baker man, has been chasing back and forth on Broad Street trying to get the big store ready and taking care of his bakery store as well. For a short while he ceased baking but that has been resumed. However, the bakery is to be closed on Sundays hereafter, excepting from 8 to 10 A.M. for the sale of newspapers only.

The reopened market is mostly self-service. Some of the customers acted as if they felt queer taking one of those "baby-carriage" affairs as they started to make the rounds to pick up their groceries. However, it does speed things up, and Louie has two exit aisles, where ration points are figured, purchased packaged and your cash taken. It was a rip-roaring day of business for Louie, Martha, Lester Paul (who is right in there swinging the meat cleaver, and taking charge of that end of the business. The store itself had been renovated in great style. Elmer Weart has been taking an active interest in getting Louie started, leading some to believe that he still has some interest of a financial nature. However, the story is that Weart sold out everything, including the entire corner property. Louie has been supervising the hardware store of late, and Norman Blackwell's garage business is to be shifted elsewhere. Louie, it is said, may move his baking, down to that site. Right now, Louie rates as the town's "wander man" for he's doing things in a big way--even getting ready to move into the house he built a little while back on Louellen Avenue. That is to be vacated by the Selby's, who are to move next door into the big house where the Puseys had lived (The Puseys have moved to Sea Girt, his business requiring him to be at the shore continuously).

As for the town tailor, D'Iorio, he has reopened on a full-time basis again, giving up his Eastern Aircraft job. For a while, you had to schedule your visits to his shop just right, for he closed Saturdays at noon (being open Friday and Saturday only) and if you came late, your suit was there until the following Friday. He said he just didn't have accommodations at home to move garments there, if they had not been called for.

Speaking of the stores--Spencer Moore would like to know who got a nice roast of lamb by mistake one recent Saturday. He had put it aside to fill an early order, but it wasn't to be found when the party called for it. In these days, it seems that people just don't bother to mention such discoveries, nor bring the goods back.

\$200 IN CASH LOST AT POST OFFICE

A moment's forgetfulness has cost Mrs. Viola VanLiew and her daughter, Adele Hurley, the sum of \$200. The cash belonged to Adele and Mrs. VanLiew was taking it to the bank. At the Post-Office, she laid an envelope containing the money on the desk in the vestibule. Then she walked out. In great haste, she returned in a few minutes but the envelope and its contents had vanished. Efforts are being made to trace it but clues are lacking. It is understood that Adele was planning to use it for a trip to Oregon, where she planned to work on a goat farm.

WHAT AN "INCIDENT!"

As a workout for the Civilian Defense groups, an "incident" was staged one night recently. It wasn't a full-fledged blackout but events to give the air wardens, reserve police and first-aid squads an actual test. Most of the plans went along pretty well, although one "saboteur"--impersonated by one of the younger chaps, in town--was supposed to be somewhere in town and the license number of a car given as a clue to his whereabouts. Acting on instructions, Bill Bodine, as the "saboteur" who had ruined a nearby bridge, sat in a car parked by Ewing's store. He waited there for an hour and a half, and nothing happened, other than two or three peering at the license plates and then going on their way. Finally, the "saboteur" had to surrender as he didn't want to stay there all night. It was explained away as a mix-up in license numbers, permitting him to go undetected.

To arrange the incident, an Army jeep was in town for a day or so. While it stood near "H.A.'s," Margaret Hullfish stood at the office window and one of the Army fellows asked her if she'd like to ride in the jeep. She replied that she was working. Her boss told her to go ahead, if she wanted a ride, so Margaret accepted the offer. She agrees that it was quite a spin.

SCHOOLS GET GOING

Schools thrive with activity again these days. Mr. Wilgus did return as Grammar School principal, despite rumors that he liked his war-plant job pretty well. Mrs. Harry Riley is teaching Sixth Grade. Pupils hate school? The bus to Princeton High, leaving from Lamsen's, was well-filled at least ten minutes before starting time on the first day!

PASTOR TALKS SHOP

In view of the fact that Pastor N. Vance Johnston spent three weeks of his vacation at work in the H.A. Smith Machine Co. plant, his report on his experiences during that time holds special interest. Pastor Johnston preached a sermon entitled "Truths of Life Re-Learned in a Factory" and it's the sort of thing that deserves to be passed along. Before you read what follows, imagine yourself back home in the Calvary Baptist Church. The choir has sung its anthem, clear sunlight brightens the church, and there is an air of Sabbath calm pervading the service. The pastor steps to the pulpit and begins.

"As most of you know, I spent three weeks of my vacation at common labor, helping to make valves. My particular job was to fit the body of the valve and the plug together so they would be ready for the trimming machine, this being one of a dozen or more processes. While at work, I re-learned a number of fundamental truths of life and I felt it would be helpful to discuss them at this time.

"1. I re-learned the truth that it is important to do every job well. I confess that I soon got tired of the monotony of the job. I began to complain, and a man, over 70, who worked across the table from me, said "You know, I've learned in my years that it's best to do every job well, feeling that it's a part of a bigger job that we're doing in the whole factory." Then I realized that I could apply that lesson to life. Sometimes, I read the adventures of "Superman" to my son, David. One told how this newspaper reporter went to an Army Air Force School and found a soldier discouraged because, after dreaming of flying, he was destined to serve with the ground crew. But Superman showed him that it takes 10 on the ground to back up one in a plane. Then the soldier changed his attitude. Likewise, for every one in life who stands out prominently, there are 100 who go along in the normal way, but that one would not stand out if it were not for the 100 who back him up. 'Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.' Sunday School teachers may feel tired at times, other jobs are tedious, but we ought to do our tasks, wherever we may be, as if we were doing it for the very best audience possible.

"2. To accomplish results, we have to practice precision. I'm an amateur carpenter, and if I make an object with four legs, one can be a little shorter, and it doesn't matter to me. But one day in the shop, the bodies and plugs of the valves didn't fit up, as the reamer was off one-1,000th of an inch. Every one had to be reamed over, or be rejected, if not exactly right. How strangely marvelous it is that we can be so careful about material things that are destructible, and so careless about spiritual things that are not destructible, but will live forever. We don't realize that our souls require constant attention. It is far more difficult to take care of a warped soul than to take care of it in the beginning.

"3. We need definite goals. Every factory has its goal, and at the shop there was always talk on Monday morning of the number of valves to be produced that week. All worked toward that goal. So in life, we should aim to be fruitful. What are we doing with the time that is ours--trying to produce something worthwhile or just making a living? What are we doing with goals--striving to reach them or not? What are you doing with your time to help the church achieve its goal? As we realize that the church strives to influence the lives of men, it is very important to think about this.

"In 'Guadalcanal Diary,' I read the order of the commander who said 'Our country expects nothing but victory from us and it shall have just that. The word failure shall not even be considered as in our vocabulary.' With that kind of message, the men under him couldn't fail. I think it would be a great thing if we faced the tasks to which God has called us by saying 'God expects achievements from us and He shall have just that.'

"4. There is no end to our usefulness in life. Out of 12 or 14 men working near me in the shop, over half were above 60--men who are producing full days' work. One was over 76, one just beyond 70, two past 65. Two were crippled, yet they stood 10 or 12 hours a day. How foolish it was for someone to decide a few years ago that a man over 40 had passed his greatest usefulness! It is true that some elderly people say 'I've done my part--it's time for me to give up.' But life is a progressive process and there is never a point at which you can say 'I'm through.' It isn't age that counts--it's the attitude of the person and the will to work. In our church we have the opportunity to demonstrate the results obtainable when there is teamwork between the young and the old.

"These, then, are some of the old truths springing to life again in a factory, telling us to follow the admonition 'Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.'"

MR. ROCKWELL COMMENTS

Through a bit of good luck, Mr. H. S. Rockwell's impressions about Pastor Johnston's work at the factory are available. This is what his employer has to say: "The valve job the Pastor worked on during his vacation is of vital importance to the war effort....I have seen our valves in cracking plants in Oklahoma that were red hot and still functioning efficiently.....The Pastor did a fine job in helping to build up the morale of the department where he worked. He also showed the boys that he was not afraid of manual labor nor dirt nor grease."

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

Erwin Benson and Fred VanLiew, eager to see more adventure than the band at Fort Miles, Del., could offer, have really launched out-- and I don't mean maybe! Yessir, Erwin is in training to be a paratrooper, and ~~Erwin~~, at last reports, was to get instruction in mine-laying. For Erwin it meant transfer to Fort Benning, Ga. He got the word one day at noon and four hours later he was on his way. He has never been in a plane, either. He just squeezed in, weighing 184 with 185 as the limit, and being 5 ft. 11, with six feet as "tops." Hope to report more on Erwin in an early issue. His brother, Pennis, incidentally is now in the 53rd Armored Inf. Battalion, Camp Bowie, Texas, instead of the 51st. Lloyd Drakemay be coming home soon because of eye-trouble. He has been in Coral Gables Army Hospital, Fla. undergoing tests. He isn't complaining, though, saying it's been like a four-months' vacation from the store. Some of his Army lectures have been heard under the palm trees or on the beach.

Paul Stryker, of the Coast Artillery, writes from Camp McQuaide, California, of new ideas in discipline he has picked up. He says: "We have a sergeant who cuts off all buttons not buttoned, and another who has pockets sewed up when hands are caught in them, and a corporal who makes you sleep with your rifle if you accidentally drop it while in formation." And as for that famed California climate, he comments that "The California sun is nice when the fog will let you see it."..... Ed Sheppard's exact location is now cleared up. He's at Oceanside, Cal. and that's a spot 80 miles from Los Angeles and 40 miles from San Diego. Southern California, all right..... Oliver Jenkins, farther north in the same State, has been in a hospital at Modesto. He's had quite a drill of it in the M.P.'s and studying a lot in off-hours. The trouble was thought to be an ulcer.... Vernon Temple, beyond a doubt, is somewhere in the Pacific..... His brother, Harold Temple, is an upper-classman at Maxwell Field, Ala., and busy with code, pistol and machine gun training, but practically through at that school.

Bruce Cray is still at Fort Devens, Mass. awaiting orders..... I'm glad to stand corrected in respect to Ernest Blackwell. He wasn't in the hospital after all, although his stomach had kicked up a little trouble. He's shifted to an address out of Nashville, Tenn., and writes that it beats Kansas..... Bob Hill sprinted home from Norfolk, Va. last week-end, getting back at 4 A.M. and leaving late the same afternoon. He's now an "F 3/o" in the Navy, and attending Service School there, instead of hopping to Michigan as he first thought might happen..... Harry Erickson has shifted from Louisiana to Fort Sill, Oklahoma..... Arch Litzen paid another visit to town just a few days ago, apparently still waiting for his ship so he can see the last of Roanoke Island-- and none too soon for him.... George Phillips is another who would prefer to see action. He re-enlisted with the idea of getting back aboard a destroyer, but he's been an instructor for 16 months instead. He explains that he almost had a crack at the Japs back in 1920 and he wanted to square up that disappointment.

Norman Hoagland is the latest from the church to enter the service. No word as yet about his destination after Fort Dix.... Graham Benson is almost all set for the Marine Corps, having passed his preliminary and hoping that the rest goes well. During the Summer, he was working at the Quartermaster's Depot, BelleMeade, as a uniformed guard and playing in the Depot Band.... Latest inductees from the town generally include Dick Embley, Lester Nevius and Cornelius Thiel, accepted for the Navy, and Virdia Hoagland, of Crusher Road, who goes into the Army on Sept. 29.

CHURCH EVENTS

The church-bell really rings like a church-bell once again. It had a funeral toll of late, so Scotty Dansberry and Paul Ashton went up to investigate. It was quite a climb through two trap-doors and up make-shift boards nailed on in all directions but finally they reached the platform above which was suspended the bell. It's a 502-pound baby, by the way. The rope had been fastened in such a way to the wooden wheel attached to the bell that the clapper gave only one stroke instead of a double tap. (See next page)

CHURCH EVENTS (continued)

And was it dusty and cobwebby up there! They adjusted the rope and then gave the bell one light tap. In the narrow confines of the steeple, the concussion that resulted almost flattened them out. And did the steeple vibrate! However, the bell sounds good now and is rung 15 minutes before Sunday School and Church, and then at the opening hour for both services.

Sixty or more attended the quarterly business meeting and covered dish supper last week. The Temples had their new baby there and it was something to see Wayne, seated beside the coach, with his foot on one wheel to move the coach just enough to keep the baby content. Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Ashton saw to the supper arrangements. An outline of a church program for the year was presented in the form of a discussion, with half a dozen having parts assigned, including the Pastor, Mrs. Sutphen, Roma Weaver, Margaret Hullfish, Mr. Riley, Scott Dansberry and Dean Ashton. The congregation adopted the program which includes a lot of worth-while goals.

In the Sabbath School, Scotty Dansberry was elected as Superintendent last Sunday, with Mr. Riley as Assistant. Scotty's job interferes to some extent but they'll work it together.... It being the Pastor's birthday, the Sunday School sang "Happy Birthday" for his benefit. His age? Thirty-five.

Here's one that is really sumthin'! Shirley Hullfish wanted to attend the Young People's meetings but was given a hint that it was intended for those of high school age or better. So what happened? Well; during the Summer she had attended meetings of the Ladies' Aid Society with her aunt, so early in September, she asked if she could join, if she agreed to pay the usual dues. "Of course," she was told so now Shirley is a member in good standing of the Ladies' Aid!

And here's an item about the choir. Sam Little, having heard the rehearsals from a distance, inquired if anyone would object if he came into the church to listen. He was welcomed and said he had been "hearing some good music coming through the windows." He explained that it seemed like old times to him, as he used to direct a church choir in Trenton, sang a lot and also was an orchestra player.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Now for a quick look around town.... Cecile Hamilton, the flier, has moved to Washington, D.C., as her work with the National Aeronautical Association took her there a lot of the time.... Bruce Gould, of the Ladies' Home Journal, was seen changing his own tire recently.... Elston Hunt nearly panicked them in the Eagle Bakery one day when he walked in and said: "As the cannibal chief remarked when he arrived rather late in the banquet hall, 'Everyone eaten?'".... Plenty of flat tires the other day when a Pennington quarry truck was overloaded and sprinkled 2 1/2-inch stone along the concrete on the highway toward Pennington. Highway Dept. employees used grass rakes to remove it, but Weart's service station had a run of business and other cars were halted along the road to repair tires, including one tomato truck headed for Camden.... Herb Rorer is having his front lawn spaded up, to finish his long-drawn out job of getting the front of his property renovated, including a low stone wall alongside his store driveway.... Fred Ege now delivers Freihofer bread, as Strong's Bakery in Trenton closed down, the finish coming when four employees quit at the same time.... Mrs. Catherine Kirby, mother of Ruth and Burk, is moving to Trenton after fixing up her property to rent.... Another block dance was held on Broad Street a few nights back with Earl Hubbard's orchestra jiving nearby residents into splitting headaches.... A General Sherman tank was quite an attraction in town for a few days, being switched to a siding when a flat-car developed a hot-box.... Herb Hurley, of Stoutsburg, was married last Sunday to Florence Conover, of Harlingen, and a lot of Hopewell people attended the wedding in the Harlingen Church. Ken Hullfish, Dr. Vaughn, his wife, Ruth, as well as Arthur Kurley and his wife, Betty Woolaton, were others taking part.... Herb sold out his farm equipment a few days earlier and will work on the Lambert farm near Princeton, occupying a house on the property. His brother, Arthur, also is taking a job there.... A damaged auto, with the hood and fender really mashed down, stood in front of Norman Blackwell's garage for a little while. It seems that people living on the Benson farm somewhere near Princeton wanted a woman, one of their hired help, to learn to drive so she could do certain errands. She was learning---and the car took it on the chin.

AND SO FOR THIS TIME...

(Except for some alleged humor on the other side of this page) it's time to say So-Long, and wishing you the very best of luck.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

First Soldier (on a transport)
--"Say, come look at the big ship."
Second Soldier (seasick)--"Don't bother me. Call me when you see a bus."

Once there was a sailor who, when asked what he'd done with his wages, replied: "Part went for liquor, part for women, and the rest I spent foolishly."

The squad of recruits had been out to the rifle range for their first try at marksmanship. They knelt at 250 yards and fired. Not a hit! They moved up to 200 yards. Not a hit! They tried at 100 yards. Not a hit!

"Tenshun!" bawled the Captain. "Fix bayonets! Charge! It's your only chance."

In the show "This is the Army," Private Wilk tells of the bloke who took his troubles to The Good Will Hour.

"Mr. Anthony," he began, "my best friend ran away with my wife. They've been gone a month--and, Mr. Anthony--I miss him!"

In Tunisia, a British Tommy lost his bayonet. To a void punishment he carved out an excellent imitation and went undetected for several weeks. Then came a day when he was ordered to "fix bayonets. He simply stood there.

The sergeant demanded an explanation. "It's a promise I made my father," said the Tommy. "As he lay on his deathbed I told him I would never bare a bayonet on the anniversary of his death."

"That's the biggest fish story I ever heard," the sergeant thundered. "Lemme see that bayonet!"

"For breaking a solemn promise" said the Tommy as he slowly drew forth the bayonet--"may the Lord turn it to wood!"

"So that is a popular song he is singing?"

"It was before he sang it."

Captain--"Is there any difference between a fort and a fortress?"

Stude--"I should imagine a fortress would be more difficult to silence."

"She was only a photographer's daughter."

"Yes, she sits in a dark room and awaits developments."

Mike--"That's a queer pair of stockings you have on, Pat--one red and the other green."

Pat--"Yes, and I've another pair like it at home."

Aviator--"Wanna fly?"
Innocent--"Oo-o-ah!"
Aviator--"Wait, I'll catch you one."

"While I was in Europe I saw a bed twenty feet long and ten feet wide."

"Sounds like a lot of bunk."

Soldier--"I'll never forget Christmas in 1942. I spent the whole day peeling spuds."

His Pal--"What happened?"

Soldier--"Our sergeant asked me what I wanted for Christmas and I told him the truth."

His Pal--"What did you tell him?"

Soldier--"A new sergeant."

General Marshall had expressed his contempt for a certain officer. Another general protested that the man had been through 10 campaigns.

"My friend," said Marshall, "so has that mule, but he's still a jackass."

"It's easy enough to drive a tank. Now get this straight: Just turn the jigger over and push on the hickey with your left hand and pull down on the other little jim-crack with your right, then press down the doo-dad with your foot and pull the thingumbob at the same time, and when it starts you push down on the doofunny with your left foot and yank the ump⁴ tydiddy back, then let up on the foot dingus and put your other foot on the hickey-madoodle; and don't forget to push down on the hootnanny every time you move the what-you-may-call-it, and you'll be hunky-dory, see?"

"I thought you were dead."

"What gave you that impression?"

"I heard the sergeant speak well of you this morning."

Midshipman Frost of the British Navy swears that one day when his cruiser plowed through the Mediterranean, he leaned over the rail and hollered "Hey, waiter," and three Italian submarines suddenly popped to the surface.

Guard: "Halt! Who goes there?"

Rookie: "Aw, you wouldn't know me, I just got here today."

Woocer--"I want to marry you."

Screen Star--"All right, I'll put you on my wedding list."

A Scotchman wrote to a friend, saying, "Why don't you write? You can fill your pen at the bank."

As the automobile said to the man with a bottle of polish, "It looks like my finish!"

H. O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
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and Told About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

No. 12

Hopewell, N. J., Oct. 19, 1943

THE EDITOR CHATS

Here we are again--Hopewell's fastest growing newspaper! And that's not the half of it, for the Editor has been turning away all sorts of offers to subscribe, pay mailing costs and the like since the last issue when copies were handed out after one of the morning services in Calvary Baptist Church, Hopewell. Maybe the Pastor's sermon was extra good that morning, for something put a lot of people into the mood to say nice things about the "Hopewell News" when next they met up with the Editor. Now, the things that townspeople have said were received with gratitude, but of course, they'll never be able to match the fine letters of appreciation that have come from the fellows in the service. Still, it all adds up to strengthening my conviction that the "Hopewell News" must be kept a-going until all of our fellows are back home again.

One good friend asked--with numerous apologies--if she might have four copies of every issue, insisting meanwhile on paying for them. The Editor promised to send her the bill--but how can there be any charge when we have no bill forms and not even a subscription rate? Those extra copies must have spread around Hopewell almost as fast as news travels---yes "The NEWS" travels!--for I've been hearing from people who I never knew before. Added to that, the Presbyterians have approached me again about passing along to them the stencils from which this is mimeographed, so they can add a page of Presbyterian Church news and send it to others on their mailing list. That's still under consideration--but I'm still working chiefly for the group for whom this thing was originally started and I don't want to lose sight of that purpose.

But the idea keeps spreading. One copy was taken up to Westfield by a State official who had "snatched" a copy that someone had borrowed from somebody else who lives in Hopewell; it's being used as a pattern in Wilmington, Del., copies during the past week went to a New York City resident who is going to do something similar; a Newark church official said he was going to show it to a number of pastors--isn't it wonderful how far a little ripple will travel.

Did I hear somebody shout, "Cut out the bragging and give us the news!?" You're right, mister. Now for the news.

OVER THERE

Two of our fellows have move-overseas--destination unannounced, of course. They are Sergeant Bruce Cray, who is with an hospital unit, and Donald Dilts, who had moved up in early Summer from Texas to Western Pennsylvania. In Bruce's case, he had a chance to spend a week-end at home although his guess at that time about moving out before the end of the week, was correct. Donald Dilts phoned one night to say farewell for a while, preliminary to shoving off. They will be in our thoughts many times, with every wish for their safety and good-luck.

LLOYD DRAKE IS WELCOMED BACK

Lloyd Drake isn't going to be called "Charlie" any more and if he hears a Sergeant ordering him around, it will only be a dream. For Lloyd has received a "C.D.D." (Certified Disability Discharge) because of his eyes. He was checked and double-checked in an Army hospital at Coral Gables, Florida, and then released, 15 pounds or more heavier in weight, and rarin' to find himself a war industry job. In fact, he hadn't been in Hopewell 24 hours before he was down at Eastern Aircraft to get himself located. It looks as if the A. & P. store chain will have to get along without him. He'll be back in the choir singing bass, and gathering up the collection after church service, as assistant church treasurer--and how delighted everyone is to see him back again.

2. PLANE SPOTTERS ARE RELEASED

When our pastor, N. Vance Johnston, started off for the Harborton Air Watch tower one morning recently, he didn't know that he had a rare distinction in store for him. He was doing the 8 A.M.-to-noon-shift, just as scores of others from Hopewell have been doing there and at the Blawenburg lookout post. Along about 11.30 A.M., Earl Abbott came out from the house and said "You're fired!" Mr. Johnston couldn't understand that, naturally. Mr. Abbott continued: "Yes, you're fired--the Air Watch service is being suspended, effective immediately." It took a little time to convince Mr. Johnston that the order actually had come through. Finally, he climbed the stairs to the lookout room, and across the log-book wrote, "Discharged at 11.30 A. M." and headed back to Hopewell.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

With cooler weather at hand, Harry Cox, the barber, decided it was time for him to begin wearing a felt hat again. Having a little business at the bank, he drifted in. To his amazement, a man who knew him quite well said: "Are you the new minister at the Methodist Church?" Incidentally, someone said the other day that the Cox & Cray shop had lost 100 customers since the war started--just because the fellows aren't around because of this unfinished business with Hitler and Hirohito.

CANNERY STILL RUNNING

They were still canning tomatoes at the factory last Saturday. The pack hasn't been up to average because of the tomato-worm plague that ruined several patches. One report was that the pack wouldn't take care of the Army's order, let alone the civilian demand. The new owners even advertised for Hopewell gardeners to "pick every tomato" and deliver it at the factory.

Under new management, the factory has been decidedly different this year. Of course, "Happy" Hoagland was still firing the boiler and George Savidge was serving as paymaster; Henry and Dick Esche were working on the platform and running the capper respectively. But the new signs around the place were "killers." They read something like this: "Attain good health by avoiding--Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, Cola, Tobacco, Liquor." As a matter of fact, those signs probably are only the beginning of a campaign to sell a new idea called "Human Engineering" to Hopewell. It seems that Mr. Bishop or Mr. Dorl, or both, feel they must warn people that they're reducing their efficiency if they drink tea, Coca Cola, chocolate and coffee--as well as the other items. (Time out while I go for a drink of Coca Cola!)

The argument given is that your personal efficiency will hop up if you cut out all these "vices." Several Hopewell people have been approached about it again recently, being given this suggestion: "You can run your car on 45 octane gasoline, but it runs much better with 85 octane, doesn't it--so why not give your body the same chance?"

Wayne Lowe, who is nine years old, isn't going to forget what happened to him at the tomato factory. He was standing on the edge of the big waste vat into which excess water, tomato juice, peelings and the like were being dumped. There had been a little "horse-play" going on and Johnny Cromwell threw a tomato that made Wayne Lowe duck. In fact, he not only ducked but took a ducking, for in he went--right down in the juice, the peelings and all. He lost no time in climbing out--a sight to behold!

POSTOFFICE TALES

Someday someone is going to collect all the stories or legends told about the Postoffice--I'm not saying what Postoffice nor where--but some of the tales are classics. One of the latest items concerns a series of postcards sent to a Hopewell girl by a soldier friend. The pictures were paintings of Varga girls--and Varga really knows girls! On each card, the sender had written some comment of a humorous vein. They were handed to the Hopewell girl as a group, and when she made some comment about the pictures, the answer from the other side of the window--according to this tall story--was "Oh, I didn't see them," and they were taken back to be given a real once-over. Say, do you really suppose that is true? Maybe I ought to offer a special reward to the person who tells me the best "Postoffice Adventure" story in the next couple of months. I'll try to have some more for you.

UNPOPULAR JOB

Maybe the Borough Assessor, William Corbett, is doing a good job in the sight of Borough officials because higher assessments mean more tax revenue, but Corbett is in danger of becoming the most unpopular man in town. His methods have raised a howl. He insists on coming in to check up, as he expresses it, "on whether you've bought anything new since last year," wants figures on this and that and likes to tell how he can't be deceived "like the woman on Hart Avenue who says that 'Improvements show on the outside but not on the inside--but she will find out!'" Bet his ears burn these days.

FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS

Bill Conover is back home on a 30-day furlough, his first sight of the old town in about three years. After all, you don't run up from the Panama Canal Zone for a week-end. Bill wasn't complaining at all when he was moved to Camp Davis, North Carolina, arriving there about a week ago. He says that everything and everybody in Hopewell looks good to him--but quite surprised to see how some of the younger people who "were down here--gave grown up to here" by now. The new movie theatre, the improvements around the church--just everything looks swell. He does too, but he's still the same quiet, unassuming Bill--with a lot of soldiering packed into those three years.

MR. GINTER ARRIVES

The Presbyterians had a big day of it Sunday, Mr. Ginter having arrived from Denver, Colorado, about two hours before going into his pulpit to tell of his experiences. He faced a terrific schedule during his 10-day stay, with friends flocking to the house to greet him; the funeral of William Hixson, former tax assessor, who died last Thursday night; a talk for the combined Young People's Societies, a trip to Columbia, Pa. where his parents were marking their 50th wedding anniversary--and last but not least, a visit to the Ashton's third story to see the big train layout on which Jack Ginter, Bill Bodine and Paul Ashton have been working almost since last Christmas. They have threatened to have it in final completion before Santa Claus arrives--and maybe they will. Mr. Ginter looks fine in his uniform of a First Lieutenant. He is with the Army Air Forces as a Chaplain.

NEW PASTOR FOR METHODISTS

The Methodist Church has a new pastor--H. R. Fuss, by name. Yep, that's it, Fuss! He seems to be well-liked, as most pastors are for the first few months at least. Mr. Rayner, who was pastor, has moved to Jay Stryker's apartment on Front Street, while he and his wife continue their employment at Eastern Aircraft. Mr. Rayner had a bit of bad luck recently when his car ran into an auto parked near the bridge on the south side of Pennington. The cars were pretty well damaged.

CHURCH NEWS

We'll be celebrating the anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church next Sunday--the 72nd. In fact, it's been quite an eventful Fall. On Oct. 10th, a unique program was held under the name of World Parish Day. We held a Northern Baptist Convention in our church in miniature and recordings were used to bring talks by the President of the Northern Baptist Convention, missionaries and others. We had a special speaker, Miss May Coggins, who has done missionary work in the Philippines and nearly everyone had a better understanding of the way in which all of us are part of a vast world and must care about what happens to others. Also, a poll of opinion was taken to help our leaders decide how they should carry on our church work. With such a full program, the service was held in two parts, morning and afternoon with a basket luncheon in the church basement at 1 P. M.

Rally Day in the Sunday School was quite a success, too, although the attendance this past Sunday actually exceeded it--being 98. Mr. Johnston, pastor, had worked out a swell idea, showing how a Sunday School compares in many ways with a nation when war threatens and the call to the colors is sounded.

The women of the church held another rummage sale and made \$35 or better, incidentally cleaning out the church attic...The Missionary Society is organizing a group of younger girls and women into a new society of their own.... The hitching post that's stood so many years in front of the pastor's house was cracked off and rests by the curb, waiting for some husky person to remove it. Wonder how long it has been since anybody tied their hoss there?....Mr. Johnston's brother-in-law, who had been ill for quite some time, has passed on, and all regret this sadness that has come to the Johnstons...Speaking of his family, did you know that Mr. Johnston has a brother who was in Sicily and perhaps may now be on his way to Rome....Elsie Hill (Van-Lieu) was on the receiving end at a surprise shower held in the church basement recently. She thought she was going bowling but was induced to enter the church, there finding that quite a group had assembled to honor her.

It sure sounds good to hear the church bell ringing regularly, now that it has been fixed to toll properly....Mrs. Lawson, of the school faculty, has taken a class in the Sunday School and is a fine addition to the staff....Rally Day meant promotions for a lot of the boys and girls, so you'll see a change in the front rows when you are back with us and attending Sabbath School again.

WITH THE FELLOWS IN THE SERVICE

John Dilts is really signed up now "for the duration." He has taken a wife and they're living somewhere near the San Francisco Army Airdrome where he is stationed. He has good reason to think that the shortage of alarm clocks is more than alarming. John overslept one morning, according to reports reaching here, and when he reported for duty, his superior officer decided that John shouldn't be allowed off the post for an entire week! Incidentally, John is a Sergeant now.

Oliver Jenkins, ill with an ulcer condition, has been moved from California to Ward 24-A, Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. They moved a lot of patients further East to make way for wounded returning from the Pacific....Ed Sheppard, of the Marines, is now a Corporal. His sister, Bertha, is an Army Nurse, serving in Northern Africa, and a Lieutenant....Paul Stryker has been through an appendix operation out in California, and expected home shortly to complete his recuperation. It wasn't an emergency job, but the Army doctors decided they should clear up his occasional pains....Tom McCandless is now at Harding Field, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, pronounced "Luz-i-ana."...Ernest Blackwell, on maneuvers out of Nashville, Tenn., has been made a gunner. He came near to being a jeep-driver but he didn't want to make the change during maneuvers when a greenhorn at the wheel might send a few fellows to the hospital....Erwin Benson is now at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, after laying his trombone aside in favor of paratrooper training....Harold VanLiew is now at Jacksonville, Florida; advancing his studies as a Navy Aviation Mechanic....Norman Hoagland, home this past week-end, has hopes of staying another month at Fort Dix....Bob Hill was home Oct. 3, hitch-hiking it from Norfolk, Va., getting one ride straight through to Camden, and then losing more time between that point and Hopewell than the rest of the trip had consumed. He took his wife (Ina Conover) and his car back with him, expecting to be in Norfolk until early January. His wife had a job awaiting her when she arrived there....Two or three people thought sure they saw Vernon Temple in Hopewell recently, but if Vernon is still far out in the Pacific when he reads this, it ought to give him a laugh. After all, most all sailors walk and dress alike.

A fine letter just received from "Reg" Hurley, enclosing two excellent photos. One shows him, shirtless, with two buckets of water as he washed his socks. On the back of the picture, he wrote "Washday-- and believe it or not, the sock didn't shrink." The other shows him in the doorway of a "shack" where he and three others live out there in Hawaii. Speaking of news about himself, "Reg" commented that the censors "have nice sharp razors here and they sure use them. He added that he misses home, friends and my church so very much" but said he was "well, safe and in good spirits." He's optimistic about the trend of the war, too. Then he said "Although this is a very beautiful spot, I would not trade it for a spoonful of good old Jersey red shale."...Bill Lowe is taking basic training at Greensboro, North Carolina....Kenneth Burroughs is now in Texas, being with a Bombardier Wing of the Army Air Force....Harold Temple, also an Air Cadet, has moved to Carlstrom Field, at Arcadia, Florida.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Edgar Vansant, who is 89, was the first person in the barbershop on a recent Saturday morning, coming in from Blawenburg at that....Tracy Hall finds that his job at Eastern Aircraft is far different from his early-morning trips to Phila. to get vegetables for Weart's Market....Some folks can't decide whether they like the self-service system in the renovated store, now run by Louie Gerhard, the baker...MacIntosh, the upholsterer, has bought the Vansant house on West Broad Street and has moved there....Mrs. Frieda Cataldo, Railroad Avenue hairdresser, had to close her shop for a week when she scalded herself while canning tomatoes, being burned on the leg...Russell Riley, Jr. was married in Ohio, his parents going out for the ceremony....Dr. O'Neill went for a physical a day or two ago, and if he goes into the service, the town will have only Dr. Swertfeger and Dr. Pierson (the latter finding it necessary to decline night calls)...Harry McCandless went cruising through "Featherbed Lane" recently--twice, in fact--to prove that a car really can get through. He had to repair a small bridge, though, laying planks to take the wheels across....

IN CLOSING

Just a few lines in closing--"He serves his country best, Who lives pure life and doeth righteous deed, And walks straight paths however others stray, And leaves his sons, as uttermost bequest, The stainless record which all men may read; This is the better way."

Wishing you the best of good fortune and a speedy, safe return,

Sincerely, DEAN H. ASHTON

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

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Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. I

Hopewell, N. J., Nov. 12, 1943

No. 13

THE EDITOR CHATS

Several much-appreciated letters have come my way since the last issue of the "Hopewell News." They tell of steady progress being made by our Hopewell fellows--courses being completed, important assignments ahead and best of all--good health almost without exception.

For all the compliments about the "Hopewell News," thanks a heap. If you're satisfied, that's all that matters. It goes to North Africa, England, far out in the Pacific and all over the good old U.S.A.--and I'm hoping it will not be too long before a few copies have to go to Berlin and Tokyo in order to reach our fellows.

One copy of a recent issue sent to a friend--not a Hopewell resident--reached him aboard a "battle-wagon" somewhere far out from San Francisco. Referring to the "Hopewell News" as a "big little newspaper," he wrote in his letter of thanks as follows: "I got a kick out of reading it and then I passed it on to the other fellows. After several 'hands' had read it, we decided we liked it so much because it seemed to remind us somewhat of the papers that were put out at our high schools. We really go in for news out here, and it makes no difference if it's about our town or someone else's. Most of the fellows from small places imagine the same things taking place in their home town, so we really enjoyed it. Thanks a million for quite a morale booster."

That's all I need to know--if it's helpful and wanted, it will keep right on coming! But there's a lot of news coming to a boil right now, so let's dish it out.

SWIFT BOAT RIDE

Sergeant Bruce Cray, serving with a hospital unit, is now in southwestern England after crossing the Atlantic in eight days! He was on a vessel included in the largest and fastest convoy yet to make the ocean trip, with everyone and everything delivered intact. Bruce had been home on Oct. 8th and hoped to be back for his birthday on the 10th. Instead, he wired that he couldn't get away. His first letter from the other side was dated the 19th, and his wife received it on the 24th! In a later letter to his Dad, he said that they were living in huts, 12 men in each, sleeping on cots with his cot right next to the stove, so he didn't need the five blankets that were available.

RUSH FOR RATION BOOKS

Quite a muddle developed when the latest ration books were being issued in Hopewell. The plan was to divide the work between two days and evenings, applicants going to the Grammar School. However, so many people went the first day that the supply of ration books was exhausted early evening. A hurry-up call was put through to Pennington only to learn that all the ration books at the district office there were locked up in a safe with a time-combination set for the next morning. Consequently, a lot of people had to be turned away with instructions to come back the next day. You can bet that they did! However, the frenzy to buy rationed goods has faded out, the food stores carry good stocks, even though prices are quite high, and most everyone finds that the ration stamp allowance is adequate.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Shortages in other lines exist, however, and some surprising situations arise. Last Saturday, a public sale was held at the Marcus Butcher home well out on West Broad Street. Articles that cannot be bought in the stores, such as toasters, electric grills, etc. were in great demand. You should have seen how children's toys sold. Toy cars, for instance, that would have been put on the curb for the ragman ordinarily, sold for half a dollar or more. Old dolls, children's books, metal toys particularly, caused lively bidding. A stroller that would cost about \$7 new in normal times sold for over \$17. The auctioneer made a good show of it (who doesn't love an auction sale?) and even gave away half a dozen baby bottles.

2.

FIREMEN WORK UNDER HANDICAPS

During the most stormy nights experienced this Fall, Hopewell firemen were called out to check a bad fire that destroyed Kettenburg's barn on Walnut Avenue, just below Highland Cemetery. It was one of those nor-east storms that whipped the rain into a frenzy, caused light to flicker and everyone to prefer the shelter of a warm home. Clouds on such a rainy night made the fire appear from a distance as if half of Hopewell was being destroyed.

Mr. Kettenburg lost a lot of new lumber, stored in the barn, and also a chicken house. The house was in danger for a time, however, and that kept the firemen stepping. When it looked as if one side of the barn might tumble out, firemen decided they'd have to move their apparatus in a hurry, as it had been driven quite close. However, several autoists had pulled in immediately back of it, so there was quite a scramble to get things untangled. Pennington firemen were well drenched making a fast run to Hopewell, but the fire was under control when they arrived.

TOM PESSEL SERIOUSLY HURT

Tom Pessel has been in the hospital over three weeks after a bad accident while driving Jacob VanDoren's delivery truck. His neck is in a cast as he injured vertebrae in his neck during his fall from the vehicle while it was overturning on the Hopewell-Blawenburg road. Glenn Agin was cut and bruised, one leg being badly cut and requiring stitches. They were making a delivery late one afternoon. A cat came out on the road and Pessel swerved to avoid it. In turning sharply, he lost control of the vehicle, and fell out of the driver's seat, there being no door on that side. The truck rolled over two or three times before halting in the field. Pessel also had broken ribs.

DONALD DILTS ARRIVES IN NORTH AFRICA

For Donald Dilts, the destination on his ocean journey was North Africa. News of his safe arrival there was received a short time ago by his parents, the Claude Dilts'.

THOSE CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Burk Kirby, like all other former employees of H.A. Smith's, will be receiving a Christmas package from Mr. Rockwell one of these days. But the gift will not disclose the strange coincidence that made it possible for Burk to be remembered. The deadline for mailing holiday packages was right at hand when Mr. Rockwell commented that "There's one fellow whose address I do not have." Burk's mother having moved to Trenton and teaching in Newark, she was not available to supply the information. Hearing Mr. Rockwell's remark, Janet Ashton, who is employed in the H.A. Smith office, spoke up to disclose that she had just come from the Postoffice and was carrying in her pocketbook a letter addressed to her grandfather, Will Ashton, by Burk Kirby himself! So the address was supplied just as easy as that, and the gift was soon on its way. Burk, who was in North Africa, wrote in that particular letter about being on a 28-hour sea voyage, adding that "I sure did feed the fishes." It's anybody's guess as to where that 28-hour trip took him. He said that the experience caused him to have an empty stomach for the first time in months. He went on to remark about Italian wine, (and that sounds like the tipoff as to his destination) commenting that "two things are needed to drink Italian wine--a corrugated stomach and an armor-plated liver."

POSTOFFICE TALES (Continued)

You'll recall probably a little recital in our last issue about a certain Postoffice, location unnamed, where strange things happen. Can you tie this one? Twenty letters were mailed, all sealed and none giving anything to identify the sender. However, two were destined to go out on rural routes, and should have had extra postage. So what happened? It may always remain a mystery, but in any event, the envelopes that required extra postage were resting that same afternoon in the mail-box of the person who had mailed them. So another chapter is added to "Postoffice Adventures."

Proud parent (on meeting the new teacher): "I am very happy to know you, Miss Smith. I am the father of the twins you're going to have next September."

An elderly Dutch woman was arrested and hailed before a Nazi court for listening to radio broadcasts from London. "Why did you do it?" the judge asked.

"Well, your honor," she replied, "Hitler told us he would be in London in October, 1940, and I have been listening every day since then. I wouldn't want to miss the Fuehrer."

THE BIG FISH THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

There's a whale of a fish hanging on the wall in the Cox & Gray barber shop. It was placed there for a purpose--to dispose of a lot of argument about the size of fish caught. As you know, fish caught in past months or years are inclined to grow heavier as time passes. So Ace Carkhuff, who lives in Trenton, decided he would produce the goods to prove what he had caught a little time back. It's a beauty--a big-mouthed bass, weighing six and a half pounds.

CHILDREN TAK OVER-DOSE OF "CANDY"

Mrs. Braunworth's grandchildren, the Gantz youngsters, became interested in some "chocolate candy" that they found in the Braunworth store the other day. The boys, 3 and 5 years old, ate up the contents of five boxes of the "candy" before they were discovered. It wasn't candy, of course--it was good old Ex-Lax--good for what ails you, if taken in small doses. The children were rushed to the doctor who had just the thing. Fortunately, he succeeded in having them do a "Jonah and the Whale" before the pills really had gone to work.

SPECIAL SPEAKER ALSO WASHES THE DISHES

At a covered-dish supper meeting arranged by the Sunday School Board the other night, Rev. Paul Smith, Lambertville Baptist pastor, was the guest speaker. About 25 attended and enjoyed his talk on "Opening Windows" (in order to discover the hidden things in the minds of those being taught). When the program was over, our Pastor, Rev. N. Vance Johnston, suggested to his good friend, Rev. Paul Smith, that perhaps the latter would like to talk with Mrs. Johnston over at the parsonage for a few minutes--as Mr. Johnston had promised to help the supper committee wash the dishes in the church kitchen. "I like to wash dishes, too," Rev. Mr. Smith replied, and a few minutes later the guest speaker and Mr. Johnston were hard at work at the kitchen sink.

PASTOR'S WIFE HAS POPULAR RECIPE

It seems as if almost everyone for miles around has asked for a copy of Mrs. Johnston's recipe for crystallized green-tomato slices. You'll never know how good they are until you have tasted them. And you can't imagine what those green tomatoes have to go through before they emerge in all their crystallized goodness. Recently, a missionary speaker who came from New York (and the Philippines) and was entertained by the Johnstons, wrote back for the recipe. There's hardly a week that goes by without someone inquiring for it. Not being a kitchen mechanic, I cannot go into details, but I do know that the tomato slices stand for three days in lime water, made by mixing ordinary garden-variety hydrated lime with water, cooling off meanwhile in the refrigerator. When they escape from that, they have a day in clear water, then three days in alum water, again in the ice box, and then some cooking in vinegar and spices. But when they are served to tone up a meal, they are really something.

CHAPLAIN RETURNS TO COLORADO

Rev. Mr. Ginter, of the Presbyterian Church, spent several days around Hopewell, and having charge of one service during his stay hereabouts. He told of his Army Air Force experiences out at Buckley Field near Denver, Colorado. It's an armorer's school, so he gets little flying, although he did tell of one hedge-hopping experience during which he rode in the nose of a big bomber.

HALLOWE'EN PRANKSTERS BUSY

The morning after Hallowe'en found things pretty well scattered around town, proving once again that boys enjoy Hallowe'en. Porch chairs, etc. were carted off, one chair being left up a tree on West Prospect Street. Dr. Dunlap, East Prospect Street chiropractor, lost his sign, and the same experience befell Mrs. Hoagland's "Antiques" sign. A few flower buckets were overturned, car windows soaped up, and the perpetrators probably concluded that they had a great night.

ELECTION EXCITEMENT

Last week's election found the Borough giving 445 votes to former U.S. Senator Walter E. Edge for Governor, and 129 to his opponent, Vincent J. Murphy, Newark's Mayor. Locally, Mayor Russell K. Metz was given a new term without opposition; Newell Holcombe and Fred Peterson, terms as Councilmen, and George Clark named to an unexpired term of two years in Council. The Borough Assessor, William Corbett, ran into opposition at the last moment, Harry Latto, taking away about 120 votes from him when friends wrote in his name on the ballot. However, Corbett had 364 votes, a safe margin. Albert Stotzer, of H.A. Smith's purchasing department, was named Justice of the Peace.

CHURCH NEWS

Our pastor, Mr. Johnston, was well received when he spoke recently at the Anniversary of Hopewell's Colored Baptist Church. Several from our church attended the service also. He stressed that past generations have helped to keep religion a powerful force and that this generation should make some outstanding contribution to which future generations can look back in the years to come. As he talked, his remarks provoked frequent "Amens," as well as comments such as "That's right," and "Well, well!"....Several members of our church attended the State Convention held at Newark and received inspiration and knowledge about the fine job being done by the Baptist denomination in its work all over the world....The Hallowe'en party in the church basement was supervised by the Young People's Society. The prize-winners (naming a few) included: prettiest costume, Joan and Raymond Allen, as wood-en soldiers, and second, Doris Holcombe, in evening dress; comic, first prize, Adele Laning, as a fisherman, and Margaret Hulfish, second, as a house-painter; most original, Beverly Lindsey, as a Dutch girl, and second, Albert Rathousky, as a "hill-billy." One of the games was "Ha-Ha!"--a good fun-maker at any time, with each person in a circle adding an extra "Ha!" as their turn came, with everyone eliminated if they laughed while reciting the "Ha-Ha's."

The choir enjoyed a couple of parties recently--one at the parsonage and the second to mark Lloyd Drake's birthday. The Johnstons entertained to express their appreciation for the choir's continued loyalty and cooperation and a good time was enjoyed. At Lloyd's party, it was a surprise--in fact the choir could hardly get Lloyd to go home after rehearsal so they could pop up about ten minutes later at his doorstep. The choir has lost the valuable help of Janet Danberry, who has returned to assist the reorganized Methodist choir....Our pastor spoke recently at a reception given the new Methodist minister, Rev. Mr. Fuss.Further improvements are under way, this time the work involving the re-decoration of the two rooms used by the Beginners' and Primary Departments. The walls and ceiling are being painted a cream color. The pastor has been doing a big share of the work, with other volunteers, including two or three women, also giving a hand....Nowadays, the smallest youngsters meet as a Nursery Class in another small room, with Mrs. Robert Johnson, of Harborton, taking charge.

Next Sunday, the pastor exchanges pulpits with Rev. Don Clyde Kite, of Central Baptist Church, Trenton. Plans are being made for an evening baptismal service on Nov. 28th....The trustees and women of the church have plans on foot to buy some new church carpet, and at the same time, the floors may be sanded and re-finished. It's great to belong to an active church, with people ready to cooperate and doing their share for advancement of the work.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Three of our fellows in Army uniform attended services this past Sunday, and all delighted because of the opportunity to be home for a visit. Paul Stryker, of the Coast Artillery, had just returned from California for his first time at home since he went into service last June. He is well on the road to recovery after being deprived of his appendix. He expected to be in these parts about 10 days before starting back for Camp McQuaide, California....Jack VanLieu, with his wife, were leaving shortly after church to start their 30-hour drive back to Jacksonville, Illinois, where Jack is beginning a new term at Illinois College under Army supervision. He reported that he was making out well in his studies, while his wife is working in a war industry out there. He looked to be in excellent health....Bill Conover, who had 30 days at home, was heading back to Camp Davis, North Carolina, where he had been sent after many months in the Panama Canal Zone. Bill had been in church regularly.

Vernon Temple is about 10,000 miles from home, his Navy vessel reaching Australia. From there, Vernon sent word home about his safe arrival there....Meanwhile, his brother, Harold Temple, is moving along with his courses in the Army Air Force Training Detachment at Arcadia, Florida. He is learning to fly a PT-17, and is building up his solo time. Soon, he will be doing acrobatics and spending a lot of time in the air. The land there is swampy, he reports, and from the air he can see level swampy ground for miles. He had begun to think that Florida sunshine was just a joke but he's seen more of it of late. In the ground school, he's studied engines, theory of flight, aircraft identification, etc. He writes of the upper-classmen "buzzing" houses, cars and cattle to display their skill, but one fellow "buzzed" (flying close enough to just clear an object) a house and brought back 12 feet of a radio pole--and was court-martialled for it. Less "buzzing" is being done now.

Tom McCandless, now down in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has had his full share of tough luck. He mashed one of his fingers, painful at any time, and then had to have stitches taken in his gum after a tooth extraction. Tom also had found that his color blindness is quite a handicap, restricting him to groundwork, but as a Technical Supply man, he's doing a good job rushing out repair parts as they are needed on the field, etc.... Arch Litzen, assigned to Naval air duty, says he is going to give up predicting. Some time back, he said he expected to go aboard ship and mentioned that he had been teamed with a pilot and radio man with whom he would stay henceforth. Much to his regret, Arch is still on land and has lost both his pilot and radio man. The original pilot was grounded due to a minor accident laid to "personal error." The radio man asked for non-combatant duty and was granted it. As to getting out to sea, it begins to look more hopeful. His airplane carrier is being commissioned very, very shortly and his entire squadron will attend the exercises. Meanwhile, Arch is at Roanoke although he has visited 14 air stations to pick up additional instruction.

"Reg" Hurley, reporting from Hawaii, says they get a chance to see good movies. He listed "This is the Army," "Mr. Big," "Coney Island," and "Hello, Frisco, Hello." When he received a ticket to see "Macbeth" with Maurice Evans and Judith Anderson, he considered that a real treat, since it necessarily meant a trip to town as well..... Ernie Blackwell is winding up Tennessee maneuvers and wondering whether he will be among the 50 percent who get time for a trip home, or whether they will move West for desert maneuvers next. Down in Tennessee, the problems usually started about 2 or 3 A.M. on Mondays and were in progress until Thursdays. The last and toughest was to extend over six days. One problem involved crossing a river on a log while carrying a machine-gun tripod on his back, weighing 51 pounds. Not being able to swim a stroke, Ernie may have been a little cautious, but he said that a company of riflemen and a platoon of heavy machine guns walked across that log, 20 feet long, without any casualties other than a few wet feet. The stream, it might be mentioned was nine feet deep at that point.

Harold Van Liew, at Jacksonville, Florida, is attending a bomb-sight school at the Naval Air Tech. Training Center, and he says, "Boy, do I love it." Previously he had graduated from Aviation Ordnance School. He says his present work is the most interesting he has ever tackled, and he's now in the 7th week of a 16-week course. During the last five weeks, he will get a chance to fly, handling the ship except for the take-off and landings. He's learning the ins and outs of the automatic pilot, and will use the bombsight for bombing runs. If he fares as well as he hopes to do, he may have a chance to become a Master Horizontal Bomber, known in the Army as a bombardier. Meanwhile, he finds the Florida weather "warm, but not too hot, in the day and cool in the evening--it's wonderful."

Lawrence Hurley is now a Corporal and as he expresses it, "in beautiful country" while on Tennessee maneuvers "and we are really seeing it." As he wrote it, he was curled up in an Army pup tent, with his buddy, a Seventh Day Adventist, reading the last issue of the "Hopewell News." Lawrence said that his Battalion has a fine Baptist chaplain.

Now for mention of a couple of others who you may know. Space wasn't available in the last issue to mention that George Koeppel had been home after a trip across to England as a member of a gun crew on a Merchant Marine ship. His ship had a cargo of food, but George wasn't much interested in any food when they experienced three days of rough weather. He liked England and its people and the shows. But returning, he found that St. John's, Newfoundland, was really tough, so much so that he bought brass knuckles so he could take care of himself if worst came to worst..... Alan Hart, who was in an Anti-Aircraft Artillery school, had to be re-assigned when the Army decided to fold up the school. He was home for a number of days, during which he was busy circulating a petition that helped to bring about a medical-necessity deferment for Dr. O'Neill. When he left, Alan headed for Jefferson Barracks, Missouri for reassignment.

The latest word about Earl Zirkler, husband of Marian Laning, is that he has no physical injuries but the trouble is in his nerves. He was hospitalized in North Africa, after being reported as missing in action. Marian, returning from Minnesota where she had visited his parents, had some additional tough luck. She checked her luggage and it was lost enroute, her entire wardrobe being included. When she arrived home, she had only what she had been wearing.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Dennis Van Liew is in town right now, and the family was hoping that Harold might get back, too, as it's been months since the brothers have seen each other.... A card just received from Harry Erickson gives his new location as quite indefinite, other than routing his mail thru A.P.O. 261, c/o Postmaster in Los Angeles.....

And here's the contents of a V-mail letter just received from Bill Wyckoff, out somewhere with the fleet. His letter was dated Oct. 24 and reached Hopewell on Nov. 8. He wrote: "Just received your Sept. 1 copy of "Hopewell NEWS" and was very glad to get it, even if it was a little late. It was truly appreciated, I assure you. Glad to hear Louis, the Baker is doing well in his business. We fellows over here kind of miss his fine oaks and buns. Would like to tell you where I am and what I'm doing but it is impossible...I'm feeling great myself, but sort of miss Hopewell and the church group a little. Looking forward to getting back with all you swell people before too long. Will close for this time and thanks a million for your news letter--whoops! I mean "Hopewell News."

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Adele Hurley is due back from that Wyoming ranch, first reported to be a goat ranch but actually a sheep ranch, having decided to get a war plant job, although she did help her employer out there on a round-up of wild horses....Mr. Hortman, who lives next to Ginter's, has been raking leaves night after night in the darkness.....John Cromwell, Jack Ginter and Paul Ashton have been playing in the Princeton University Band for some of the big football games, as many of the Army, Navy and Marines taking courses there have been tied up with their exams, or off on furloughs, etc....Following the death of her brother, Mr. Hixson, Mrs. Ege has sold the property where they lived to Mrs. Baldwin Drake, and Mrs. Hixson will have rooms with her. Mrs. Ege is planning to live with Mrs. Viola VanLieu....Joe Labaw, who served on the Ration Board, went to Washington and from there to Arizona where he will grade bauxite as a mineral engineer--and probably pick up some samples for his fine display of phosphorescent stones (the kind that glow in the darkness after being exposed to a bright light)....Bill Booser has been sworn in for the Air Corps Enlisted Reserve, but may be deferred to finish school, although he is 18 this Saturday...."Hoksey" Holcombe (Russ, Jr.) is going to Camden for his Army physical exam this week.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A few Army definitions:

Sabotage--Fifteen fellows ahead of you when you want to make a phone call.

Uniform-- What a civilian wishes he's wearing every time he goes to the movies.

Fox-hole-- Your mailing address just about the time your furlough papers come through.

If Little Red Riding Hood were living today
The modern girls would scorn her;
She only had to meet one wolf,
Not one on every corner.

One morning during the Breakfast Club radio show, Don MacNeill noticed a soldier and a WAC in the audience, holding hands. When he mentioned that fact, they ceased. The announcer said: "Now I know what is meant when they say that a WAC released a soldier for active duty!"

SIGNING OFF

It looks as if it is time once again to sign off. I hope you enjoy reading this mixture of news items, alleged humor and town gossip. As one of our good church women expressed it Sunday morning after the service, "Now I wish the war was over so all our boys could be back with us--wouldn't it seem good to see them all in church once again." I guess it goes without saying that you'd like to get the chance, too. Well, these are joyful days for our cause and the time will come almost before we know it. I hope you think of your church, its people and the high aims to which the work is dedicated, and are determined to take an active part and be a "regular" when you do have that opportunity again. The best of luck to you. Sincerely,

97 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, New Jersey

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL NEWS

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Edition
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Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. I

Hopewell, N. J., Dec. 8, 1943

No. 14

THE EDITOR CHATS

And still we grow! This issue is the biggest ever, but it just seems as if there isn't anything in the way of news that I feel I should throw away. I never know exactly what will strike a responsive chord, so I'll continue to empty my pockets of all the news notes that I scribble down from day to day, hoping meanwhile that you'll like the finished product.

I am happy to present a special feature in this issue, to be found on Pages 3 and 4. I found that your friends were keen about participating in this issue of the "Hopewell News," since it comes nearer to being the Christmas issue than any other is likely to be. As you read them over, I'm sure you will find that there is a powerful warmth of feeling behind the words written there. It's just what makes church-going people different from most others.

For the fine letters that continue to come my way, thanks a million--until I can drop you a few personal lines a little later. But now to the news.

ARCH LITZEN ABOARD THE "BATAAN"

It was a tremendous thrill for Arch Litzen, A.M.M.3/c, when the aircraft carrier "Bataan" was commissioned at the Phila. Navy Yard on November 18. (No military secret involved as newspapers carried pictures of the big event). Unless some unexpected developments occurred, Arch went aboard immediately thereafter for Rear Admiral M. F. Draemel, commandant of the Fourth Naval District, turned the ship over to the crew. He used plain-spoken words. They were: "When the time comes, give the Japanese hell!" The captain, Capt. Valentine H. Schaeffer, promised that the "Bataan," namesake for the fallen Philippine peninsula, would keep a "rendezvous with destiny that shall not be denied," and added "The world again will know that Bataan is speaking."

Under such a Captain, Arch can look for real excitement. He is now assigned to a Torpedo Squadron as a gunner.

AWARDED PURPLE HEART

David Danberry, who was wounded in action in North Africa, has been awarded a Purple Heart. He is a Pfc and was released from a base hospital in October, expecting to join his outfit shortly thereafter. In a letter written on Oct. 30 and headed "North Africa," he wrote that "I am feeling pretty good just at this time. Have just come out of the hospital a week ago"--and not a word did he say about himself beyond that. He did add that "I am seeing a lot of the world, more than I expected, but will see lots more of it before I ever get back to America."

BLACKOUT FOR CARD PARTY

While air-raid "blackout tests" are rather infrequent these days, the latest one on Dec. 2 at 9.45 P.M. came at a bad time for the card party being held in Grange Hall by the Eastern Star. About 75 were participating and things had been confused at the outset, because of confusion over how the players were to "progress." It took about 10 minutes to get them agreed on how they were to proceed--then with things going smoothly once again, word was flashed about the "blackout." It really was black in the hall when the lights were doused, according to reports. Then someone called out, alarmed: "Where's the money, Florence?" meaning Mrs. Bodine. "That's all right, I know and nobody else needs to know," she replied. Later it developed that it was in a table and Mrs. Bodine was sitting on it.

Even the style in prizes at a bridge party has changed. The most-sought-after prize was a pound-and-a-half of country butter, and it went to Mrs. Renner.

THE CAR THAT GETS AROUND

Russ Holcombe, Jr. has just gone into the service, leaving last Saturday. Since he couldn't very well take his car into the Army too, the thing to do was to sell it. The car was one of those noisy roadsters--it got you there if you didn't care how. It seems that the car came to Hopewell originally when Richard "Pooch" Embley bought it in Trenton. When he went into the service, he sold it to Norman Blackwell. "Pooch" had paid \$60 for it. Norman Blackwell sold it to "Hokey" for \$30. The latter got plenty of use out of it for several months. Now it is owned by Clarence Laird, who paid \$40 for it. After all; any car is in demand these days, if the tires are good. Incidentally, Laird is recuperating right now from a collar bone fracture, that occurred during a football game.

Other recent join-ups, in addition to "Hokey," are Earl C. Bartlett, also in the Army; and John F. Corcoran, Wilmer O. Daniels, William T. Sinclair, all in the Navy.

TAXI OPERATOR TIRES OUT

Ed Ashton has given up his taxi business. Anybody who had seen him dozing while waiting for business in front of Gebhart's Hotel could see that he was plenty tired, and that seems to explain why he has quit his old stand. Instead, he is working as a crossing watchman at Skillman, a job that he held several years back. He tells a story about why he "took it easy" in the taxi business. According to his version of it he went to see a doctor a number of years ago and the doctor told him to "take it easy until the next time I see you." Then the doctor died so Ed Ashton says "What could I do, the doctor gave me orders and I had to obey him." Actually, he grew weary of staying on the job to meet the last train about 1.38 A.M., then maybe taking a trip some distance from town, only to get a little sleep and then be up before daybreak to get someone else started for the city.

NEGRO TROOPS AT BELLE MEAD

Seven hundred or more of Negro troops recently were assigned to the Quartermaster's Depot at Belle Mead. Some of the nearby residents have worried about the situation, fearing that complications might arise. Many feared they would replace civilians who hold jobs there. Less hiring of temporary or part-time help has resulted.

SKUNK IS CORNERED IN GARAGE

Delbert Conover, who obtained his driver's license recently drove in home one night not long ago and spied a skunk in the garage. The skunk was almost entirely white. Delbert's sister, Della, headed for the house and shelter. Delbert headed for the house and his gun. Out he came with it, and when he saw Mr. Skunk's head just showing from behind a box in a corner, Delbert banged away. He hit the skunk all right. He also left the car standing out in the open air for the night.

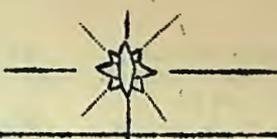
IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?

The doctor situation Hopewell has taken a turn for the better. Selective Service has been hot on the trail of a doctor from Hopewell--first Dr. O'Neill and more recently Dr. Swertfeger. In Dr. O'Neill's case, petitions were signed by patients and friends citing that he was needed to prescribe for patients over quite a wide area. As a result, he was deferred for six months. No sooner was that word received than Dr. Swertfeger was called in for a preliminary examination. When patients offered to get busy, he declined their offers of assistance, but meanwhile many wrote to Selective Service officials to cite that he also was urgently needed. During the suspense, Dr. Cutter, the druggist, remarked that "If both should go, that would leave only Dr. Pier son who never answers night calls (he is around 80) but if he will look after the people in the daytime, I'll try to supply the medicine that will keep them alive through the night!" Now the word is that Dr. Swertfeger also will not be taken for a little while.

It creates a serious situation, though, when doctors are not easy to locate. Just this past week, a woman in Washington's Crossing tried for four hours to get doctors from Trenton to see her sick husband. When Dr. Swertfeger was called about 11.30 P.M., he went over and found the man with pneumonia--and Dr. Swertfeger went right to work. The patient is recuperating.

DRIVEWAYS IMPROVED AT STATION

Several Hopewell mothers will long remember the day when the station driveways were given a tar-surface treatment. It was windy and the tar-spreading equipment made it easy for the wind to waft tar particles about. Result--a lot of kids, who just had to watch the operation, went home with speckled faces--and the tar never intended to come off.



CHRISTMAS

To all the boys who have gone forth from Calvary Baptist Church of Hopewell to fight in our armed forces for the goal of freedom, we here at home send our wishes to each one of you for a Merry Christmas and may God grant us all a Happy New Year. Sincerely,

Anna G. Stout

This Christmas message speeds the To wish you happiness today (way May health, content and loads of cheer Be with you throughout the year.

Mr. + Mrs. Asa R Hill

Hello, boys, and Good Luck. From

It is the Bensons three Who send this greeting to ye, Walter, Betty and Soph-ie. (And to Erwin and Graha-me Your Mother and Dad-dy).

Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Williamson

It will be a grand day when we can look around our church and say "Isn't it fine to have the boys back with us, and they are so eager to make things hum."

Mr. + Mrs. Walter Benson

May the blessings of the Christmas season remain with you throughout the coming year.

Mr. + Mrs. Horace Wyckoff

Greetings, Fellows: Think of so many of you often and mean to write. Have a Merry Christmas. Best of luck and GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

I am glad to have an opportunity to wish you well--not only for the holiday season but for all the months ahead.

Rona Weaver

Wishing you the utmost in good health, happiness and luck throughout the coming year.

Margaret Hullfish
Our thoughts are speeding across the miles to you, whether it be holiday time or an ordinary day in our lives.

Mr. + Mrs. Leon M. Hill

W. L. Coy

Greetings and best wishes for all the joys of a Happy Holiday Season.

To you fellows who are in the service of Uncle Sam, I wish to send my greetings and very best wishes, whether you are in camps in this country or in other countries or at the fighting front. We are all thinking of you many, many times and can appreciate how much you would like to step into your homes to enjoy the Holiday season. I know you appreciate what Mr. Dean Ashton is doing to keep you in touch with local conditions for we know it must be a great comfort to see the names of those we know, when you are far from home. We miss each one of you in the church, in the community and, of course, in your place of employment and most of all, in your homes. May God speed the day when you will all be returning to your accustomed places.

Sincerely,

Leon M. Hill

Mr. + Mrs. Wm. Green

Confident of victory for our cause, we are proud to know that our boys from Calvary Baptist Church are proving themselves to be real Christians during this critical testing time.

Fred L. Stephen

I hope that my little prayer for you to come safely back to Hopewell counts with God as much as a prayer from a grown-up, and I'm sure it will.

Shirley Hullfish

4.

We join with others who worship together in Calvary Baptist Church in wishing you the confidence and contentment that comes with doing every job well and standing fast to the principles of Christian living.

Mr. + Mrs. J. C. Higgins

May God bless you and keep you at this Christmas Season and all thru the New Year.

PUPILS, TEACHERS AND OFFICERS
of CALVARY BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL

All your friends in Calvary Baptist Church wish you were back with us and we look forward eagerly to your safe return.

Mr + Mrs Marvin Conover

Just a wish for Christmas,

Just a prayer or two,

That all God's precious promises
May be fulfilled in you.

Anna, Elsie and Mary Snook

Merry Christmas and Good Luck in 1944. We hope we may extend our greetings next year in person.

Mauby and Lottie Danolony

Best wishes and the sincere hope that you will soon be returning to us.

Mrs. + Mrs. Harry E. Riley

I'm just about 11 years old and the youngest member of the church but I'm interested in your activities. So here's my "Hello" and best wishes.

Clyde W. Ashton

An old wish for the New Year: health, happiness and good fortune

Mr + Mrs L. A. Parel.

From us two, to everyone of you, In camp, in plane, on ocean blue; Bountiful luck and holiday cheer— Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr + Mrs Russell Riley

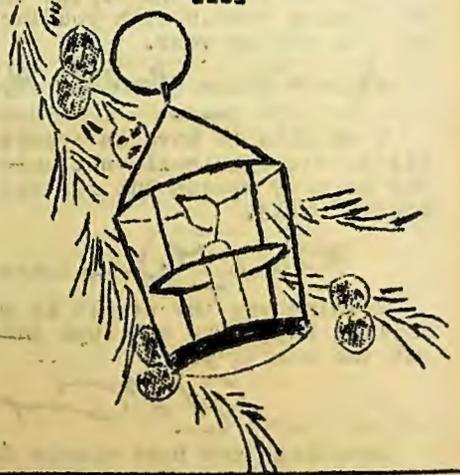
Ode to Christmas, 1943

Oh, Christmas will come,
As night follows day,
But we're skipping this one
While you're all away.

Sadie Danolony

At this beautiful season of the year, I, as your minister, join with your church friends in sending you warmest greetings and good wishes. May Christ be born anew in your hearts to bring you peace of mind and spirit.

N. Vance Johnston



PASTOR JOHNSTON HEARD AT VINELAND

Hopewell Baptists are concerned over the possible outcome of a visit that Pastor N. Vance Johnston made on Nov. 28th to Vineland at the request of a Pulpit Committee from the First Baptist Church there.

The committee arrived in Hopewell quite unexpected on a Sunday two weeks previous, only to find that Mr. Johnston was exchanging pulpits just for the day with Rev. Don Clyde Kite, of Trenton Central Baptist Church. The Vineland group headed for Trenton and heard Mr. Johnston there. They concluded that they wanted their church people to hear him in the Vineland pulpit. So Mr. Johnston acted upon their request.

Naturally, it has lead to wide speculation on the possible outcome. As a matter of fact, it was the third Pulpit Committee that has been in Hopewell this year, making it all the more evident that an aggressive, result-producing pastor becomes sought after by larger churches. At the moment, the only thing that can be said with certainty is---watch this situation and don't be surprised about developments.

During his absence last Sunday, the congregation heard Rev. Gerald W. Trussell, Navy chaplain at the U.S. Naval Aircraft Delivery Unit, at Mercer Field, in Ewing Township. He is a Texas Baptist, and was very well liked. On the same evening, Pastor Johnston conducted a candle-light baptismal service, baptizing Barbara Maple, and two girls from a new Hopewell family, Dorothy and Katherine Doran. They were received as members this past Sunday, along with Mrs. John Vandoren; sister of the Misses Elsie, Anna and Mary Snook; and Miss Bessie Snook, thus adding five to the church rolls.

LIVELY DISCUSSION AT SCHOOL

Some frank talking was done recently when the Parent-Teacher Association invited six men to take part in a panel discussion on "What Results Should Our School Produce?" It grew lively when the salaries paid to teachers were discussed, and also the discipline problem. One speaker said a teacher should have the right to put trouble-makers in their proper place, if present-day kids were to be kept straight.

Dezzie Casey told how he had tried in vain to find a school boy who could compute the quantity of water in the quarry swimming pool and he said it didn't help much even when he supplied the dimensions. He said he had concluded that the pupils lacked confidence in themselves and that must be because the teachers also lacked confidence. Others said that teachers were lost because salaries were too low. Dave Smith, lawyer, said that the teachers were usually young and were paid as well as if they were in other lines. Pastor Johnston commented that teachers, like ministers, usually take up their work because it is a type of service that appeals to them, and money-making isn't the first consideration, but added that they should not be underpaid. The discussion held the audience until 11 P.M.

LOSES A WAR BOND

Sophie Benson, who is 10, lost a War Bond recently while taking it home from school. It represented some of her brother, Graham's, hard-earned money. But fortunately it was found the next day--under a tree that Sophie had been climbing after school! Graham, accepted for the Marine Corps, is now at Parris Island, having reported on Nov. 18. He becomes the second Marine from our church, Ed. Sheppard being the first. On his first day at Parris Island, Graham had two shots, and seven teeth re-filled, and apparently 4.30 A.M. was going to be his regular time to get up mornings.

THE GIFT THAT WASN'T THERE

The Princeton High School band gave a concert recently, and the players bought a \$25 war bond to present to the leader. It was ordered on the quiet but it was delivered at the school to one of the teachers who didn't know about it. He tried to give it to the band leader, Mr. Frech, who said there was some mistake. Fortunately, the bond was retrieved. All that happened two or three days before the presentation was to be made, and Mr. Frech accepted the explanation that it was just another Senior Week "stunt." Then came the night of the concert and Johnny Cromwell, Hopewell lad who is vice-president of the band, was due to present the bond. When he arrived at the school, he remembered that he had left the bond at home. It was too late to go back to Hopewell for it, so he presented an empty envelope and Mr. Frech had to be told in advance not to open it up on the platform, under any circumstances. After all that, Mr. Frech really did appreciate it when he received the bond.

POSTOFFICE TALES (continued)

We continue the series recently begun concerning a certain Postoffice, location unstated. Guess at your own risk. A birthday card was addressed by street and number to a boy who recently moved to the Smith boarding home on West Broad Street. It happened that he had the same name as a youngster on Hart Avenue. The card failed to reach the boy at the address written on the envelope. The sender learned in a round-about way what had happened, as the parents of the Hart Avenue boy wondered why a birthday card was received from a stranger and no birthday occurring, either. So the sender inquired at the Post Office and learned that the sorting was done "by name." Ho-hum! Of course, the streets named above are fictitious, or are they?

FATHER THOMPSON COOPERATES

Father Thompson deserves a line of credit. Norman Gebhart, attending the Baptist Sunday School, asked his teacher to sign a statement that he was present one certain Sunday. She obliged but asked the reason for the request. Norman explained. It seems that he likes horseback-riding. Father Thompson, who goes in for the same sport, had told Norman that he would let him ride his horse, but not unless he brought proof that he had attended Sunday School. Now there's a bit of inter-church cooperation for you.

JUST A FEW OYSTERS

The annual Grange oyster supper attracted quite a crowd, even if it was \$1.25 for adults. Spencer Moore sold the oysters to them, and had the job, of course, of opening them up. While hard at work on the oysters, he told customers that he had 2,200 oysters to open up. Speaking of oysters, there is a saying about lawyers: "One shell for thee and one shell for me, and the oyster is the lawyer's fee."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Oliver Jenkins, Pfc. is slated to start home in a few days from Memphis, Tenn., with a disability discharge. He is back in good shape again but his stomach ailment has led to a decision to release him to civilian life.....Over in Southwest England, Sgt. Bruce Gray is getting accustomed to English life. His wife and parents have concluded that he is about 150 miles from London. He reports that one of his jobs is to take charge of the cash and other possessions of patients cared for by his hospital group...Erwin W. Benson, Corporal, is at Fort Benning finishing three weeks at "jump school". It decides whether he can qualify for paratrooper work.

Sgt. John W. Dilts, the former Pacific islander, whose marriage was announced recently, is living at San Mateo, California. His bride is Mary E. Buchanan, of Rocky Hill, who had worked for the Bell Telephone Co. in Princeton. They were married in California:....Sgt. Dennis VanLiew was in church on Nov. 16 while back on leave, but returned to Camp Bowie, Texas, and may soon be on the move with his Armored Infantry Battalion...His brother, Fred VanLiew, Pfc., was also at home recently on a 10-day leave:....Norman G. Hoagland was transferred from Fort Dix to Fort Bragg, N.C., and assigned to a Field Artillery outfit.

Pvt. Paul Stryker, well-mended after his appendix operation, had a real visit at home after a coast-to-coast train trip. While he was luckier than some in having a seat, it wasn't easy going for a recent hospital patient. He started back for the West Coast on Nov. 16, and as expected by him, was shifted to a new unit. He is now with a Field Artillery Battalion at Camp Roberts, California:....Clarence Habeeb, S1/c, is still at Williamsburg, Va. with the Seabees, and doing personnel work in the Camp Peary office. He was in Hopewell recently while on a 62-hour leave. While the rest of the Habeebs are in New York Clarence says he prefers Hopewell and intends to come back here when the war is over. In the Seabees, he finds that he has a bit of everything, including amphibious operations, construction, sailor life and Army technique all mixed together:....Ernie Blackwell, Pfc., is now over at Camp McCain, Mississippi. It was his good fortune to be home for Thanksgiving dinner while having about two weeks' leave.

Robert I. Hill, F3/c, who is at Norfolk, Va. made another fast trip with his wife Northward, making the long trip to and from, to spend about 20 hours at home. They phoned one Saturday night about 10.30 P.M. from Paulsboro (below Camden) and Leon Hill met them in Trenton:....Harry J. Errickson, writing from Cam Ibis, California, gives the real low-down on desert life. He says: "I had no idea there were so many God-forsaken places in the U.S. Naturally the soil is sand and nothing growing upon it, except some grease wood and spiny cactus. The sun is quite bright and glaring even at this time of year. At night we freeze and at day we sweat. We are living in tents without floors and sleeping on cots, with a small pot-stove to furnish our heat. We use soft coal and wood. Practically speaking, cleanliness is something we once enjoyed but not here. After a road march you have to look twice to see your buddy in order to recognize him. Our food has changed from fresh vegetables to canned foodstuffs. The General gave us a talk a short time ago and he stated that we are here for a toughening-up training period. If we can beat the desert and it will be hard when the real test comes, we will be able to take most anything. The nearest town is 16 miles away. For entertainment we have U.S.O. shows in an outdoor amphitheatre and outdoor movies. I can't brag about the latter but the former are quite good. This is a summary of life here as I am living it and seeing it. It isn't a bed of roses."

George T. Everitt, Pfc., is now at a Prisoner of War Camp in Arizona. He comments by letter that "I have been moving around quite a bit lately." He adds that guarding prisoners of war isn't very exciting work and gets monotonous at times. Then he adds: "I know that I am much better off than the fellows at the front and when I start to gripe about things, I think of them and shut up like a clam."

Tom McCandless has moved to Hammond, Louisiana, about 50 miles from his former spot. He expects to be there a while with his Fighter Bomber Group. He is at a small field with less than 500 men there, with the pilots getting the real thing for training ships. He is with the same "gang" but newly numbered as they changed over from dive bombers. He likes Louisiana much better than Florida, finding the people more ambitious and treating the fellows better. While "it is still pretty damp here because we are near the Mississippi, it isn't swampy and it's the best State I've seen in the South yet."

Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard, Ed's sister, has V-mailed from Italy that she was delighted to get the "Hopewell News", the first issue sent to her giving her welcome word about him. Censorship prevented her from writing in any detail except appreciation.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

William Lowe is up at the University of Vermont--yes, the State is big enough, believe it or not, to really have a University. It's located at Burlington, Vt. He is an Aviation Cadet, and had been at Greensboro, N.C. for his basic training. His five months' of college work began Oct. 19. He's been troubled a bit with physics. The cross-country running must be something, too, up there in that cold country, for they started by running a mile, but soon shoved it up to three or four. It will be five or six miles before he leaves. Bill is hoping he can qualify as a fighter pilot but as he says, "It's easy in this business to 'wash out' and you have to stay on the beam every second, physically and mentally.

Way out there in Hawaii, "Reg" Hurley sees to it that every little favor is fully acknowledged. While he cannot say much about what's doing with him, he has written lately as follows: "The news and things that go on here sure look swell and I sure wish I could tell you all I see and hear but you will hear it sooner or later, as the government sees fit. One thing that made me feel quite good was what Churchill said, 'The war will be, surely will be over by the end of 1944.' If that should only come true, I'm sure I could stand it here that much longer. This Thanksgiving and Christmas make two of them I have spent here. All in all, it is about 19 months that I have been here in the tropics.

"Mel" Servis is in South America on a secret mission and may be gone about three months. He is with the Air Transport Command as a Flight Engineer for the American Air Lines. He is a graduate of Parks Air College and recently returned from his fourth trip to Scotland via Iceland....Bill Lanning, the snare-drum artist, has moved up from the South, his new location being Fort Dix (a handy place to be) where he is working at Tilton General Hospital in a surgical ward....Verdie Hoagland, the fellow that the Army kept waiting for a couple of weeks before it could supply a uniform large enough to fit, is in the Sanitation Corps. He says he's busy killing bugs, but if you press for the details you find, he's working up an education on swamp sanitation, purification of water, rather than delousing....Bob McLaughlin was home recently, his ship being in drydock after Atlantic coast patrol...Chaplain Ginter confessed that he was home-sick when he first went back to Buckley Field, Colorado. He added that Army friendships, in most cases, are like "ships that pass in the night," for men don't stay long enough for close acquaintance. Aside from religious duties, he finds he has 1,001 odd jobs like helping fellows who have loaned money, then moved out suddenly, to get repaid by their debtors....Tom Bregenzer, who is on a merchant ship, was home accompanied by the famed Sergeant Yorke's brother, who is in service with him.

CHURCH NEWS

New carpet has been selected for the auditorium of Calvary Baptist Church. It's a purplish-wine color, although it's not easy to describe it. It should look swell when the job's done. That may be delayed, however, as the women of the church probably will have the floors, between the seats, re-sanded. The committee to select the carpet, headed by Mrs. William Drake, will long remember its errand to Trenton for the purpose of locating carpet and getting prices. They visited eight stores and in most places, they laughed at the idea of anyone hoping to find 100 yards of carpet of one kind. But they succeeded, and it's pre-war, all-wool stuff.

Lloyd Drake was honored at the church's quarterly business meeting. He was lauded, as a returning service man, for having been ready to serve in the Army when called, and then as Mr. Johnston expressed it, for "getting right back into stride, singing in the choir, taking care of the church collection as assistant treasurer and taking part in things generally." At the same meeting, it was revealed that the church has about \$700 in its treasury. Plans were made to paint the new basement concrete floor. Mr. Johnston gave a little review of the year's work.

The pastor almost set the church garage afire one breezy afternoon recently, while he had a little bonfire nearby. At any rate, the fire engine would have been pretty handy, but the fire didn't get going enough for that....Marvin and Delbert Conover brought a lot of fertilizer from the farm to spread on the church lawn. One passerby, when he saw that it came from the hen-houses, said: "Well, if it grows like mine did after using that stuff, somebody had better be ready to push the lawnmower about three times a week!"....Deacon Jones' wife is in a Trenton hospital, being quite ill and an operation necessary....The Missionary Society is holding a Christmas bazaar later this week, selling "white elephants" that were duly advertised in the Hope-well Herald.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Mrs. Harry Riley, who was "drafted" from her job at "H.A.'s" to substitute as Sixth Grade teacher at the beginning of the school year, has given it up, for health reasons. The School Board located a replacement but the new teacher taught one day, then mailed her resignation from Trenton and vanished.... Tom Pessel, who had that bad accident in VanDoren's truck while making a delivery, is around now but still on the mend. His neck was in a cast because of a broken vertebra in that region. He's wondering when his hard-luck is going to ease up. Last year, he had to quit Blair Academy as he broke both ankles in a fall down the school library steps. This Fall, he returned to Princeton High, but the truck accident has kept him out of school for weeks, and before it happened, he was repeating the first half of his Senior year of schooling.... Speaking of mishaps, Dewey McLaughlin, Jr. has a broken arm, also the result of a football play that went haywire.... And Livingston Titus, of West Prospect Street, and Thomas Braggs, of Front Street, were in a car coming from Eastern Aircraft a few mornings ago when it figured in a crash in Ewing Township. They were taken to the hospital with lacerations and released.

Orville Carkhuff is buying furs again this season, and doing some trapping on his own. He set 10 traps for muskrats one day, and caught nine the next day, and eight on the following day.... George Adams has been ailing with a stomach condition, and is now dieting. He also figured in a collision of cars near Mount Rose a short time ago, with his running board and fender faring worse than the occupants.... The 10-gallon Western hat that Adele Hurley is wearing when she strolls up the main stem these days, following her return from a Wyoming ranch, is really something to see. With it, she wears a checkered shirt and ranch overalls, and says she's going West again, cowboy, when this year's over. (Credit that alleged cowboy lingo to the Editor, not to Adele).

George McCandless is working again in Weart's Market, having given up his bakery truck route. Of course, the store is now run by Louie Gerhard, the cake-and-bun specialist, and his wife. McCandless helps a lot on the meat counter, since the store is largely self-service, and also does a turn at the cashier's counter as the patrons pass out (pass out is what I mean, not fainting because of present-day prices.... They had quite a sale up at Will Hixson's to dispose of his goods. Stout was the auctioneer with Ed Whitehead as clerk of the sale. It was a cold, raw day but the customers came and business began at 10 A.M. and went right on until 7.30, with the last hour and a half in darkness. Women of the Methodist Church had lunch available and it was a sight to see the customers sitting out in the open at improvised tables eating clam chowder, hot dogs and soup. However, the women made over \$110 by their efforts.... Louise Hill, who is attending State Teachers' College, sings in the well-trained choir there.

Did you ever hear the story about Jack Blackwell's experience when he went on a deer-hunting trip? With others, he went on "stand" and after a while a big buck deer came through. The man nearest to Jack fired and missed. Jack blazed away and brought down the deer. Man, was he excited! As others in the party gathered around to inspect it, Jack started to tell just how it all happened and how he felt. Suddenly, he went green and his stomach did a flip-flop. The trouble? Well, Jack in all the excitement had not only swallowed a mouthful of tobacco juice but his "chaw" of tobacco as well!

SIGNING OFF

There it is, folks, and I'm right down to the signing-off place. Hope you won't always be looking for an eight-page letter. You know Abe Lincoln once wrote to a friend saying: "I'm sorry this is such a long letter. If I had had more time, I would have written a short one." However, I've tried to load these pages down with the things that I feel will interest most of those who are away from home.

With it there comes to you, as always, my constant wish that you will be blessed with self-contentment, good health and a keen appreciation of the better things that life has to offer.

When you feel like dropping a line to the address in the corner below, it will always be more than welcome.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL NEWS

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Edition
Limited

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II

Hopewell, N. J., Jan. 3, 1944

No. 1

FAREWELL PLANNED FOR PASTOR JOHNSTON

The advent of a New Year finds Calvary Baptist Church starting a search for a new pastor, having accepted with regret the resignation of Rev. N. Vance Johnston on Sunday, Dec. 19th. He has accepted a call extended by the First Baptist Church at Vineland, down in Cumberland County. His final sermon in Hopewell will be preached on Sunday, Jan. 16th. The congregation is planning to hold a farewell supper in honor of Pastor and Mrs. Johnston, probably on the 14th.

Pastor Johnston has been in Hopewell almost five years and has done a fine piece of work. The Vineland pulpit committee liked him from the start apparently and the congregation, after hearing him in their own church, gave their approval through an unanimous call. It is now revealed that a church in Norwich, Conn. also had suggested that he come their way for a tryout, so the danger of losing him in Hopewell had become constantly greater. However, Vineland is a big opportunity for Mr. Johnston and even his best friends would not insist that he remain in Hopewell when a wider opportunity for service offers. The Vineland church is double the size of Calvary Baptist, conducts morning and evening services and is quite progressive--just ideal for a man like Mr. Johnston who has lots of ideas and likes to try them out.

The choice of a new pastor is presently in the hands of a Pulpit Committee consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sutphen, Mr. and Mrs. C. Lloyd Drake, J. Russell Riley, Marvin VanDewater and Margaret Hullfish. Already they have met and are beginning to assemble the names of prospects but it may take quite a few weeks for them to hear several pastors, narrow their choice and present recommendations. Meanwhile, the church will hear substitutes, most likely.

With the Johnstons will go the well-wishes of their Hopewell friends, by no means limited to those who are connected with Calvary Baptist Church.

GENEROUS GIVING

Pastor Johnston described it as "a thrill that a Pastor rarely experiences" when the church treasurer brought word to him that an unidentified person had placed an envelope containing \$100 in the collection plate. The money was given for the World Emergency Forward Fund. Last year, the church gave \$180 for these special needs and hoped to make it \$200 this year. However, the goal was boosted when churches were asked to double their quota of last year, if possible. Extra giving swelled the total, and the \$100 contributor gave the campaign a bang-up finish with a total of \$370--more than double!

FLU EPIDEMIC

Anybody who hasn't had a case of the "flu" in the past couple of weeks is just out of style in Hopewell. Fortunately, it has been a mild form of the disease, so the story told in that regard doesn't hold strictly true. The story goes that St. Peter heard someone knocking at the pearly gates one morning, so he called out: "How did you get here?" The answer was "Flu (or flew)!" Schools in Pennington and Harbourton shut down early for Christmas vacation in the hope of checking the epidemic. According to Dr. Swertfeger, one man in town called up and asked if it was true that the doctor had a "secret weapon" to combat the "flu." The physician replied that if he caught the cases early enough and his advice was followed, he had a pretty fair average but he wasn't claiming any "secret weapon." Actually, it's sulfathiazol that's helping a lot, but it has to be used sparingly and only for certain types of cases.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES

It wasn't a "white Christmas" and many folks said "Next Christmas will be a real one," but still it was holiday time. Two fine programs were given at the church, one the candlelight service of the Young People under the title "Christmas Hymns in Silhouette," with music by the choir, a solo by Sadie Dansberry and two violin numbers by Vincent Denito; the other service was the Sunday School program, also written by the Pastor, in which the playlet of "The Little Match Girl" had been woven. Santa Claus--alias Russell Riley--appeared that night, too, although he came near not wearing his red suit. When the program started the search for the outfit was still in progress. Finally, it was rooted out in the church attic, and Santa looked rather wrinkled, but for the kids, it still was Santa Claus. The congregation presented a gift of cash to the Pastor and his wife.

Earlier, the Women's Missionary Society held a Christmas bazaar and earned about \$50. They included an entertainment and "seats" with the price of admission. Another Christmas event was a party for the Tri-L Club led by Mrs. Johnston. They elected Mrs. Horace Wyckoff as president, despite the fact that she had to be called by phone to get her acceptance--being ill at home. Mrs. Edward Lindsay became vice-president and Carolyn LaRue secretary, the latter discovering that she was to be treasurer as well.

The Sunday School Board had a Christmas party, too, and one of their games was to write a letter to Santa Claus asking suitable gifts for the person sitting alongside of each writer. For Roma Weaver, someone wrote: "She has been a good girl all year and has put her hair up in curls every night. So please bring her an inheritance of \$1,000,000." For Mrs. Lawson, who teaches school: "Please bring her another left hand so she can correct exam papers twice as fast, also 3 dozen blue pencils." For Harry McCandless: "A nice new car, also a five-pound box of chocolates to give his best girl." For the Pastor: "A new Plymouth car--pre-war, of course; a new typewriter, a pleasant smile, a loving heart and a cheery disposition." For Margaret Hullfish: "A car but she better learn to drive first as H.A. Smith's parking yard is full and new fenders are expensive." For Scott Dansberry: "A Cape Cod house, all furnished with a white fence around it so the baby won't run away." For Evelyn Erickson: "A husband as she is not getting any younger and men are getting scarcer."

OLIVER JENKINS IS HOME

That long-awaited "C.D.D."--certified disability discharge--came through for Pfc. Oliver Jenkins and he came home from Memphis, Tenn. about 10 days before Christmas. He has a rigorous diet to follow but has recuperated from his ulcer trouble so he is able to work. Oliver had done quite a stretch of service, much of it devoted to Military Police work in California, with prisoners of war--and that's enough to wear anybody down.

BRINGS HOME THE VENISON

Georgie Jones, who is 14 and therefore not old enough to require a gunning license, shot a deer up on the Magalheas place north of town. He's a Grammar School boy but he sure taught a thing or two to some old-timers who still have their first deer to get. Furthermore, Georgie used an old, rattly gun that could have qualified for a museum. But the young hunter had made up his mind he was going to produce the goods. After all, Harry Cox, the barber, had kidded him too much about coming home empty-handed most likely. But arriving back in town with the deer slung over a front fender of his father's car, young Jones burst into the barber shop and exclaimed "Come out here!" Mr. Cox took one look, left Herb Forsythe half-shaved in the chair and dashed across the street to see the buck. In fact, the news even broke up the back-room card game--and it really takes something to do that. Pa Jones was more excited than the successful hunter himself. The deer weighed about 200 pounds and Georgie had dropped it with a single shot.

ANOTHER DEER STORY

It was something else as far as another party of hunters was concerned, Tracy Hall, Claud Ermons and George VanDoren, who went up into Penna. to "get their deer." Three others joined the party there and five deer were shot--but it was no luck for Tracy Hall and VanDoren. The story is that Tracy Hall spent a lot of time chasing a deer through the woods, banging away now and then but he couldn't get it to a point where he had a good shot. So when the party wound up, someone slipped into a store at Dushore, Pa. and brought out a toy machine-gun for Tracy's special use if he decides to employ the same tactics on another deer-hunt.

EXPLAINING THOSE TERRIBLE SCORES

3.

Some of the "experts" at cards are still explaining their low scores that occurred at a recent Eastern Star card party. They blame an innocent little mouse, who darted unobtrusively from a dark corner of Grange Hall. But it only took one set of eyes to see it to throw the place into confusion. Some of the women played cards for the balance of the evening with their attention on the floor, while they kept their feet pulled up from the floor and their dresses pulled tight around their ankles---(say, who told me that--why the women don't wear dresses that come to their ankles!)

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS ORGANIZED

The bugles re blaring and the drums thundering quite frequently these days in Hopewell. It's because a drum-and-bugle corps has been started for boys and girls, chiefly of Grammar School age, by Mr. Doran, who moved here from Allentown. He's a bandsman himself and has a son who can bugle and drum. About 20 recruits have been lined up and they really can be heard when they get together Thursday nights.

POSTOFFICE TALES (continued)

Remember those items about a certain Postoffice, its location unnamed? Well, Postmaster MacAlinden decided that Hopewell must be meant and he took Ye Editor to task about it. The fact is, he said, that lots of Hopewell residents tell him that the service is wonderful that anyone who criticizes the Postal Department just isn't well informed, etc. Also, complaints should be taken to Mr. L. H. White, Postal Inspector, 2nd Floor, Federal Bldg., Trenton, he added. Since Postmaster MacAlinden felt that the Inspector should "inspect" what had been printed in the "Hopewell News," a visit to Mr. White's office was duly made. An interesting chat resulted, information was exchanged, although Mr. White seemed a bit puzzled about the visit since the purpose was not to sign a complaint.

All of which may have served some helpful purpose, as Mr. White indicated. In fact, he said he is always willing to check up on complaints. Meanwhile, the Postmaster revealed how it can happen that two envelopes, typewritten and bearing no return address, can get back into the mail-box of the sender for extra postage. Mr. MacAlinden, far from taking any credit to himself, stated that his assistants have a marvelous amount of specialized knowledge and skill, knowing most everybody's handwriting, "almost the hour and minute" when certain regular mailings will reach the Postoffice, etc. So, in the case of the envelopes that were returned, it came about that one was received at the home of a Postoffice employee (about 20 such envelopes being mailed simultaneously) and the employee's alertness linked it up with the two envelopes that needed extra postage. In an earlier issue, we said that probably it would never be known just how it happened--but there you have it!

SALTING IT AWAY

Since a lot of things such as radios, cars, refrigerators, furniture, etc. are scarce or unobtainable these days, folks around Hopewell have taken a big interest in Building & Loan shares. The Hopewell B.&L. (a good method to save steadily each month to buy a home or accumulate cash) opened a new series of shares about a month ago. It used to be that their goal was 300 shares and a high goal at that. But this time, 350 shares were taken the first night and Russell Holcombe, Sr., secretary, was getting calls from points all around. Of course, a lot of people are making good money in war plants but it's also something to know that all of it isn't been foolishly spent.

NEWS OF THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Most likely Sgt. Dennis VanLiew is across the Atlantic by this time, after a trip that allowed him a scant 15 minutes back home. His outfit had moved up from Texas and he saw a chance to see his folks and his wife, Elsie Hill VanLiew, before saying farewell for a while. Only a week before, his brothers, Harold (Navy) and Fred (Army) had been home at the same time. Harold had shifted from Florida to Norfolk, Va., and Fred is at Fort Miles, Delaware.

Paul Stryker, the school-teacher turned soldier, soon may have his wife, Louise, with him. She has planned to store their goods and go to California where he is now getting Field Artillery training.

A/C Kenneth Burroughs made a long leap when he moved recently from Houston, Texas, to Kingman, Arizona. He is taking gunnery at the Army Air Field there, 3,000 feet above sea level, with mountains surrounding the plain. He describes Kingman as a typical Western town. After six weeks there, Kenny will take advanced bombardiering at one of the three schools in the West Coast Command, having 18 weeks in that phase of things. According to Kenny, "The Air Corps seems to believe in my seeing the country."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Cpl. Erwin Benson has received his "wings" after qualifying in the paratrooper "jump school". Naturally, he's elated over passing that crucial test....Sgt. Bruce Gray V-mails from England that it's still the Army, one of his jobs lately being a coal detail. We hear that he makes use of a British-style typewriter while working in a General Hospital office but he didn't use it when he wrote. He says he hasn't "got ten on to the hang of English weather as yet with the sudden changes from sunshine to rain, then both together with beautiful rainbows." His real job is as bookkeeper for the custodian of patients' funds. He feels that it's a pretty good sort of an Army job. And the food is good, even having some ice cream to write home about, yet he adds "I would settle for anything in the States to being over here."

Bill Wyckoff, is now a signalman, 3/c and "mighty proud of that crow on my arm." His letter suggests that he is in Italy or close to it. He appreciated Christmas gift boxes, especially "good old American 'pokey bait'" identified by him as meaning candy....Cpl. Ernest Blackwell, at Camp McCain, Miss., enjoyed pictures sent by the Editor as one showed his Mother and Grandmother coming out the church door. He has been reviewing basic training and special note--Ernie's a corporal now. He had several fillings at the dental clinic recently, all in one trip. He spent about three hours in the dentist's chair!....Ed. Sheppard, a Corporal in the Marines, hasn't lost interest in his home church, asking anxiously from Oceanside, California, for news as to a new pastor.A/C Harold Temple sent a nice Christmas card, orange trees and airplanes, from his present location at Arcadia, Florida....Bill Lowe, an A/C up in Vermont, hopes to get some flight training along with his college studies. He's striving to earn a Commission....Tom McCandless, with a Fighter Bomb Squadron at Hammond, La., says about 500 men are stationed there. The mechanics and pilots felt pretty good, though, when a bunch of Thunderbolts were delivered for training purposes there, in place of Aircobras....Bob Hill, F 3/c, rather expects a change from Norfolk, very shortly....Clarence Habeeb is now Y 3/c, working in Personnel at the Navy's Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va....Russell Servis, with the American Air Lines in S. America, says he's doing quite a bit of flying; all the movies are stale and he's in a spot where leather boots are worn all the time because of bugs and mosquitoes.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Newell Holcombe, more than busy with plumbing and heating, has a rainspout on his shop that is badly in need of repair...Charles Holman, Hart Avenue, was injured when his car hit a pole at Stoutsburg.. Orville Carkhuff, Jr. has been driving Jake VanDoren's delivery truck.Ida Stefano is working in the Postoffice...Harry McCandless lost his wallet with \$5 and gas coupons, probably while skating at Hunt's Mills...Hilbert Hurley, of Stoutsburg, has entered the Navy and is at Newport upon R.I....The town's service flag alongside the bank is tattered and torn....Joy streets last Sunday afternoon sent cars sliding by the Presbyterian Church.

IN MORE PERSONAL VEIN

Remember those special holiday greetings in the last issue? Now it can be told--a little fee was charged for the privilege and as a result the church's mimeograph fund was enriched by \$7.50. But there is much more to be said about the generous attitude of your well-wishers in Hopewell. It just seems that they will not be denied the privilege of having some part in making this little newspaper possible. So a number of contributions have rolled in. For example, the cost of material and mailing of this issue is being met entirely by your friend, Mr. Edward M. Haynes. If you enjoy this issue, a line of thanks directly from you to him would probably please him no end, for it has been just such friendly messages that have "kept steam up in the boiler" as far as the writer is concerned. Mr. Haynes' address is State Village, Skillman, N.J., you know. Several others have seen to it that future issues will be similarly sponsored.

Every week brings new revelations as to how far the paper circulates. For instance, a copy that had been regarded as remaining in Hopewell, now finds its way through three or four hands and then gets sent across to North Africa. And right here in town, the story goes, it is kept more or less available in Dr. Ray Vaughan's waiting room where it has readers aplenty. It's pretty doubtful, though, as to whether it will cure a toothache.

Now, a little story before closing time. In London, one charwoman, discussing the inconveniences of a blackout said: "It's a necessary evil, else we're likely to be blasted into maternity." The other replied, "Tis so, but the worst of it is we'd never know who done it!"

Smooth sailing, nice going, and luck labeled "Best brand" to you. Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Edition
Limited

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II, No. 2

Hopewell, N. J., Jan. 24, 1944

16th Issue

SPURT AT THE SEAM

When a gal splits a seam, it may be tragic or comical, but when it happens to a gas tank, a lot of folks have cold meals, a shortage of hot water and in some cases, frosty houses. That's what happened in Hopewell last week. A tank at Flemington, filled with illuminating gas waiting to be piped to Hopewell and other towns, suddenly opened up at the seam last Monday morning. And did it play havoc! In fact, it took the rest of the week before things were back to normal.

The supply of gas for cooking and heating suddenly gave out about 8 A. M.--and on wash-day at that. Phone calls to the N.J. Power & Light Company revealed the state of affairs. Later in the afternoon, workmen made the rounds in Hopewell and shut off all the gas meters, and said it would be at least 24 hours before the damage was repaired.

For those who heat their homes with gas, that was serious business. Included were "Doc" Stults, Dr. O'Neill, the J.R. Rileys, Wilma Moore's, Koepfels and others. But a lot of husbands who came home to find a cold meal on the table thought that they had all the misery piled up on their door-step. Louie Gerhard, the baker, couldn't bake any fresh goods. Rumors flew around to the effect that there had been a serious explosion. The next day, the "victims" of the gas shortage arranged to cook on the electric or coal stoves of their neighbors. More than one housewife was seen carrying hot dishes of food or baked potatoes from one home to another.

Then the gas men returned and began to turn on the gas. They worked far into the night, having to take special precautions because of the danger of leaks as the new supply drove through the pipes. And in a lot of cases, little adjustments that had been postponed were mentioned and received special attention. So it was Wednesday, Thursday and even Friday before the town was really "hookin' with gas" again.

COAL SUPPLY DWIMTLES

The shortage of coal also has really been something for the past two or three weeks, and the end isn't in sight yet. Lest you fellows in the service think we're getting to be a lot of fault-finders, however, it should be added with haste that the amount of grumbling being done is really remarkable. All we have to do is to think of what a lot of the fellows in the armed forces are undergoing, then we decide that we get off pretty lucky.

Hopewell's coal dealers say they just can't get delivery on their carload orders. The reserve supply at the mines isn't there, due to last summer's strikes. Upon arrival of a carload, it is parceled out in small lots to help as many as possible. Between times, the dealers have only buckwheat size coal and soft-coal to offer, so a number of people are burning that. On the other hand, Hopewell is faring better than many places, as many owners have always been inclined to put in their winter's supply well in advance, and in many cases, the strike didn't affect them too much. Also, the users of fuel oil haven't had to deal with a shortage anything like last winter's. However, fuel oil restrictions still exist. You can bet that no one will freeze to death though, because Hopewell is too neighborly for that.

BUYING 'EM UP EAST

Pupils in the Hopewell Grammar School are "going places" in the purchase and sale of war bonds and stamps. With the Fourth War Loan just getting under way, they turned in over \$4,000 worth of business during the past week alone. The 1943 total exceeds all the sales of stamps and bonds through the school during the previous two school years. Of course, the students have rounded up a few good orders but for the most part, their purchases until recently have represented the pennies, nickles and dimes that might have been spent for candy, movies, etc. The Bend drive slogan, "Back the Attack!" only has one meaning as far as Hopewell's pupils are concerned.

The Baptist parsonage stands vacant and strangely silent; the Johnstons are now established in their new location at Vineland, N.J., and Hopewell's Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a new pastor.

Pastor Johnston and family moved last Wednesday, the Vineland church sending a van to haul their household goods. On the previous evening, Mr. Johnston didn't see how it could be done, for he had a heap of packing yet to do. In fact, he was in that perplexed stage that is inevitable when a major change is about to take place. However, the moving van backed up to the front door the next morning and that settled it.

In Vineland, the Johnstons are located at 218 S. East Avenue. That's an address you may want to keep. He will be glad to know that Hopewell people haven't forgotten him; He has a much larger church in Vineland and it's quite a town with 8,000 people, about 20 glass companies, nearly as many clothing and dress firms, some employing several hundred people. It's also the trading centre of the poultry-raising area of South Jersey.

During his last 10 days or so in Hopewell, the Pastor and his family were royally entertained. They had a string of invitations for meals that kept them on the go night after night. Along with it, of course, there was the farewell tribute which included a special covered-dish supper and a program to express appreciation for the work done. A presentation of cash amounting to \$40 or more (not so bad for a present so soon after Christmas) and a few other surprises topped off that occasion.

There was a rousing good crowd for the farewell program. On the table there was roast-beef, obtained by Mrs. Hersee Wyckoff's committee, since few people could spare their "points" for such an occasion. After the boards had been cleared away, friends from the other churches arrived for the community program. Dr. Gurju, stated supply at the Presbyterian Church, and Rev. R.R. Fuss, of the Methodist Church, spoke for their congregations. Leaders of the various organizations in the Baptist Church told of progress made during Mr. Johnston's stay; the choir sang; Vincent Denito played violin solos and some original poems were read. Sadie Dansberry was in charge of the program, and she read a poem she wrote reviewing Mr. Johnston's career in Hopewell. Here is a part of it:

"What bothers me most," said the preacher one day,
 "They think I don't work, but I'm here to say,
 That between the fires in the winter and the lawn in the Spring
 Paint jobs and leak jobs, I do most everything."

O, speaking of working--the lawn, trees and flowers
 and a huge vegetable garden took up the spare hours;
 But as big as it was--the story's behind it--
 He built a fence around it, so he'd be sure to find it!

Then there's the boys who have left us to join the red, white
 To all that is good, the pastor urged them be true; and blue,
 From the choir, from the Sunday School, we know them by name,
 They'll miss his kind letters, things won't be the same.

In addition to the cash gift, the congregation presented a large framed card with a picture of the church and parsonage, while beneath the photo was the resolution of regrets adopted when Mr. Johnston's resignation was accepted, and then the signatures of 100 or more of his friends. Then a couple of gifts in the way of a joke, came along. Mrs. Johnston was given a set of toy dishes (she had been wanting new dishes) and that prompted their son, David, to jump and say "You can give them to Diana (his baby sister)." Then for Mr. Johnston, there was a package containing seven neckties, opened up one at a time, and with a poem indicating one for each day in the week. He had said once in a Junior sermon that he hoped someday he could afford to have a different tie for every day. Now he has them. For instance, there was a bright one for Monday with these lines of explanation:

Monday--A dreary sort of day,

The pastor's weary and in the way
 If his wife is busy with the wash--
 And says his sermon was mostly bosh.
 On Monday, then, a mental lift
 Is sorely needed, so this gift
 Is intended to do the trick
 To banish dull Monday and do it quick.

PASTOR JOHNSTON DEPARTS (continued)

Then the final verse, for Sunday, was as follows:

Sunday, the big day of the week,
 Must find the Pastor at his peak
 Feeling fine and looking spruce
 To shout, to plead, to give the deuce.
 So here's a tie to wear that day,
 Not too gay nor even risque
 But for the pulpit, it should do well
 As you chase the Devil back to--
 Well, where do you think?

Mr. Johnston preached his farewell sermon on the 16th. It was no easy task for him but he held to his text and kept it from being a tearful occasion. And so when the final "Goodbye" was said, the Pastor and his family took with them the sincere wishes of his people for his success and their continued happiness.

PULPIT COMMITTEE GETS BUSY

One night recently the Pulpit Committee met at the church to continue their planning. Ten minutes or so later, another member of the church arrived, saw lights but no people. Investigating, he found the members of the Pulpit Committee in the heater room, as close to the heater as they could get. They have a big job on their hands. At any time, it is a serious task. Right now, however, ministers are scarce, as many are in the Armed Forces, classes in the seminaries are smaller and the larger churches are taking most of the younger men who are available. For the time being, the church will have guest speakers, but it is hoped that it will not be too long before the right man for the pastorate is located.

NEW BISHOP

Before leaving, Pastor Johnston conferred upon Rev. Fuss, of the Methodist Church, the honorary title of "Bishop." It's been a long-standing joke. The title originally was given to Mr. Ginter, of the Presbyterian Church, by Mr. Johnston, since Mr. Ginter had served such a number of years in Hopewell. So when Mr. Ginter became an Army chaplain, he bestowed the title with due ceremony upon Mr. Johnston. Then at the farewell to the Johnstons, the title was handed over to Mr. Fuss who remarked that it was going some, to be in town only three months and be designated as "Bishop." Mr. Johnston explained that he couldn't designate Dr. Jurji, stated supply for the Presbyterians, since he was non-resident.

NEW ASSIGNMENTS

The church mimeograph--printing press for the Sunday church bulletins, the HOPEWELL NEWS, etc., was moved up to Clifford Higgins' where Mildred Rathousky, assisted by Mrs. Higgins, will keep it whirling. Mildred offered to run off the NEWS, and this issue appears thru her cooperation. As for the "Torch," it hasn't been decided what will be done about that. Lloyd Drake and his wife are going to see to it that the "Secret Place," paid for by Mr. Nickerson so it can go to all of our servicemen, is mailed out regularly. And the furnace-man job, in which Mr. Johnston substituted for most of last Winter and the first part of this Winter, has been taken over by "Pat" Lake, who lives directly back of the parsonage. It's handy for him and he will be doing a great service to the church if he carries through. Running three furnaces is not the easiest sort of a job, though. Since he works for J.B. Hill & Sons, it also may make it a little easier for the church to keep informed about the available supply of coal.

THROUGH THE ICE

It was a narrow escape for Carole Wilgus, three years old, when she fell thru the ice at the creamery pond on Model Avenue a few days ago. She is the daughter of the Grammar School principal. Young Bob Lewis, of Model Avenue, succeeded in pulling her out of the water which was up to her shoulders. The youngster escaped any serious after-effects from the ducking.

With plenty of cold weather--and practically no snow--there has been plenty of ice skating hereabouts.

ACCEPTED FOR SERVICE

Several Hopewell fellows are all set to go into the service. For the Army Air Corps, John Devlin, of Columbia Ave., and Colin A. McBurney, of R. D. No. 1, have been accepted. Stanley Runyon, West Broad Street, goes into the Army.

Accepted for the Army Air Corps but sworn in for the Enlisted Reserve until school ends in June are William Bodine, Jim Bregenzner and Paul Ashton.

AROUND THE CIRCLE

Mel Servis, who was in South America, returned unexpectedly to Hopewell. Then the Air Line by whom he is employed notified him to be in New York on the morning of New Year's Day. Thereafter for 10 days, his parents didn't hear a word but Mel told them what he thought was in the making when he left home. On the evening of the 10th day, Mel appeared. Sure enough, he had been off on a little trip. He was one of the crew on a plane that flew during that 10-day period to Newfoundland, Scotland, North Africa, Azores, Bermuda and home. That's no military secret, as the newspapers are full of stories these days of the achievements in aviation such as that. Even so, it's a huge circle to swing around in such a short time.

RAILROAD MISHAP

Tragic news involving John W. Servis, a switch maintenance man on the Reading and a brother of Russ Servis, Mrs. J.R. Riley, Mrs. Fred Sutphen and Mrs. Hoagland, was brought to them a short time ago. While at work near the West Trenton station, John Servis, who was 69, was hit by a train and met instant death. The clattering made by a passing freight train left Servis unaware that he was in peril from a train on the adjoining track, near which he was standing.

SERIOUS MISTAKE

Albert Rathousky will make sure that it doesn't happen again. He used some of those precious ration points to buy two pounds of steak and some frankfurters, but left the bag in his bicycle carrier while he went into another store to do a second errand. When he came out, the bag had been torn open, and the meat was in the possession of a very grateful dog. Albert gave chase but the dog knew a good thing when he had it.

BAND CONCERT

That cracker-jack band of Princeton High put on a concert in the Hopewell Grammar School last Wednesday night. A big crowd turned out and considered it quite a treat. The "Donkey Serenade" topped everything. Players from Hopewell included Jack Ginter, Lois Casey, John Cromwell and Paul Ashton. To Johnny Cromwell's dismay, the band director called on him to lead one of the marches. John acted as if he was pretty doubtful about it, but once he started them off, the band went right along.

FIRE SIREN IN WEIRD KEY

It isn't the noise of the fire siren that wakes up Hopewell residents, as much as it is the weird key when it hits its shrillest note. It's B natural,--the oddest note in the musical scale. This word about the fire siren's key was learned when the Editor interviewed the organist of the Baptist Church. It developed that the organist usually is practicing Saturday noons when the fire siren is tested. The organist said: "somehow, a fire siren doesn't mix well with organ music, so on one recent occasion, the time was used to identify the key of the fire siren."

The Saturday blowing is handled by "Gat" Breese. For actual alarms during the day, however, the calls go to Cutter's drug store and someone dashes over to set off the siren alarm. At night, however, the calls go to Harry Cox. He turns on the current by direct wire, and then puts in a few fast phone calls to make sure that firemen are roused up and quickly on the job.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Letters received and expressing thanks for Christmas gifts have been pouring into Hopewell. Charles "Reg" Hurley, writing from far-away Honolulu, asked a little help because he found himself "in a spot". He explained thus: "I have received so many nice cards and gifts from the people of the church and Hopewell. I sent a few thank-yous, but have lost the list of these I have thanked, and the ones I haven't. Woe is me! Could you put a line in your paper, thanking all my friends?" There you are, friends--thanks a million from "Reg" Hurley.

Others were equally grateful. George Phillips, S. Fl/c, who is at Davisville, R.I., also ran into some complications in trying to get his thanks through. He wrote to Pastor Johnston asking him to thank the Committee that took care of the church gifts. Phillips gave the letter to a friend to mail, but the friend forgot it and soon was en-route elsewhere, being shipped out. Later, he wrote to Phillips, saying he had just discovered the oversight.

But prompt or delayed, the letters of thanks have rounded out a happy exchange--sincere good-wishes from the Baptist congregation, and real appreciation from those on the receiving end.

INSPECTORS VISIT STORES

To check up on prices being charged, OPA inspectors (that OPA means Office of Price Administration) looked around Hopewell a few days ago. They went into the stores and went through the motions of ordering meat. Just before it was being cut, they inquired the price. Reports persist that they made some notations in their books but no public announcements have been made. It remains to be seen what the OPA inspectors concluded.

TAXI TROUBLES

Once you've been in the taxi business, it isn't as easy to get out and stay out as you might think. Ed Ashton, who believes that nothing should be done hastily, even killing mosquitoes, has found that out. He still gets calls for taxi service, although he's been a crossing watchman near Skillman for a couple of months or more. The other night about 3 A. M., a lady called in distress. She said she was at Marshall's Corner on her way to Trenton and her car had broken down. Ed Ashton explained that he was not only out of business but was here sick with the gripe. With some difficulty, he persuaded her that she must look elsewhere for assistance. Taxi service is being provided by Carballal, of Railroad Avenue, but according to reports, he's difficult to reach at night, as the phone is in their store, while they live in the former Braunworth store, several doors away.

Here's another Ed Ashton story. He often carried a friend for company, and so it was one day when he picked up a passenger who said he wanted to go to "the Trenton station." The taxi rolled along and Ed Ashton, taking it for granted that West Trenton was meant, had almost reached the station. About that time, conversation brought out that the "extra" was only going along for the ride. Then the regular fare remarked: "Why, I didn't want to go to West Trenton. I thought this man had hired you to go there first. I want to go to the Clinton Street Station!"

MIX-UP IN NAMES

Military mail must cause a lot of headaches. Two recent mix-ups have come to light. J. Russell Riley sent a Christmas card to Lawrence Hurley, addressing him as Corporal and mailing it to Nashville, Tenn. After about 10 days the card came back, returned by Pvt. Lawrence R. Hurley, from Regis College, Denver, Colorado! The latter explained that it was being sent back because any attempt to return it thru Army channels probably would mean that it never would reach Cpl. Lawrence B. Hurley. The chap who received it by mistake was a Mt. Holly fellow.

Lloyd Drake prizes a letter he received after he went to a little trouble to make sure that a soldier from Chatham, N.J. received his home-town paper. It seems that Lloyd was forwarded a newspaper from Fort Dix because it was addressed to Charles Drake. Lloyd, while in the Army, was "Charles" since the Army doesn't go for a name preceded by an initial. But Lloyd found it to be the Chatham Press. So he wrote to the editor. In reply, the editor, J. Thomas Soett, wrote in part as follows: "Once in a while the editor of a local newspaper gets a letter which reestablishes his faith in the youth of our country and its successful future. Such a letter was yours...What impressed me most was your concern that another fellow might miss something of value to him. Young people are supposed by their critics to be careless and thoughtless, and indifferent to the needs and feelings of others. I do not find it that way and I speak out of 45 years' experience as editor of a country weekly...Thank you for your letter. It has heartened me no end. It is not altogether what you said, but the indelible American spirit which I read between the lines."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

The overseas mail grows heavier. Bill Wyckoff, SMS/c, U.S.N., sends a card picturing the Cathedral in Palermo, Italy. He says: "Have seen some very beautiful country over here and the Cathedral was grand. I'm fine and in good health." Vernon Temple, P2/c, also was extremely thoughtful, mailing a view of a street in Brisbane, Australia, and comments "Receiving your paper. Thanks a million. It's like a feeder line from Hopewell. Keep 'em flying." And from Donald Dilts, by V-mail, comes word that the "Hopewell NEWS" was the second letter that reached him in Italy. He added that it had been just impossible to write. After stating that "We all had a very nice Christmas, with turkey and all the trappings," he said, "The candle is getting low so I will say so-long."

George Everitt, serving near Phoenix, Arizona, in a Prisoner-of-War camp, is at home right now. Lawrence Hurley, up from Nashville, Tenn., was in church a week ago. Bob Hill, home from Norfolk, thought it looked as if he about to be assigned for duty at sea. Fred VanLiew, home from Lewes, Del., was lucky enough to be on hand for the arrival

(6)
WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Harold Van Liew, AOM3/c, found that transferring to Norfolk from Florida had him "going in circles." He is now in CASU, meaning "Carrier Aircraft Service Unit." He expects to go up for second-class ordnance-man this month, and then a little later, a leave, perhaps. It will be his first leave since last Feb., although he did manage to get home for a day twice in that interval. Since going to Norfolk, he has been in 20 n.m. School. He estimates that he's had the equivalent of three years of vocational schools in civilian life. Harold is playing in a newly organized dance band--sawing away on a bass fiddle.

Cpl. Ed Sheppard, of the Marines, comments that "Those posters you see about California weather are all wrong. It's the only State where you can get sunburn and pneumonia at the same time." Ed has been going through landing maneuvers and says "I would like to go on over and get this thing over with, so I can get back home and be satisfied to not leave the front porch." Clarence Habeeb, Y3/c, has been transferred from Camp Peary, Va., to Cleveland, Ohio, being with the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts. He gets a subsistence allowance and lives with three other fellows in an apartment, and rate is as "not bad." He adds that Cleveland shows real hospitality, with street car rides free, movies at less than half price and all sorts of help at the USO.

Pvt. Norman Hoagland, at Fort Bragg, prizes his carbine, a semi-automatic rifle now used by the Field Artillery. He says it is "a sweet little rifle" and has an effective range of over 300 yards. However, they had four weeks of preliminaries without firing them, or as Norma expressed it, "About like shining shoes without polish." He has been on bivouac, "never being so cold in my life" on one of these nights. Tom McCandless finds that there's "lots of work and no time for complaining" down at the Army Air Field, Hammond, La. His squadron has been winning honors, rating tops for maintenance, flying time, etc. He hopes to get home in March and wants to get some ice-skating then.

"Reg" Hurley, in Hawaii, has been ice-skating twice--even though he is in the tropics. It's an outdoor rink at "a certain place around here." When the sun goes down, the ice is fit for skating, but it's quite a distance for "Reg" to go, so it's a rare privilege. He also added--draw your own conclusion--that "Things are about the same here except the buzzing is much louder."

Alan Hart is believed to be enroute overseas. He had moved East recently and mail from him as suddenly ceased. Graham Benson, of the Marines, had three weeks on the rifle-range down in S. Carolina.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Ira Blackwell was reported as putting fertilizer on his garden on January 8th....The Rev. H.R. Fuss' have a baby son at the Methodist parsonage, their second child...Scott Dansberry, Jr. has purchased the former Cenner house at Columbia and Seminary Aves...Dot Stout was given a surprise farewell party, being ready to start nursing studies at Mercer Hospital....Mrs. Edward Jones underwent a serious operation but is now at home and recuperating nicely...Mrs. Clifford Higgins also was quite ill, but better now...Edgar VanZandt, on his 89th birthday, was given an axe. He had asked for it, one of Scout size, and he spent part of the day chopping up some tree branches.

IN CLOSING

Once again, I've tried to crowd a variety of material into an issue. If it gives you enjoyment or a feeling that home really isn't very far away, the NEWS has served its purpose. Your home town, your friends and especially your church, is interested in you, and we hope you will feel the same deep interest when you come back to pick up in civilian life.

It's been a pleasure to edit another issue for you. This time the cost of materials and postage for mailing has been underwritten by the following: Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Vaughn; Miss Ella Hullfish and Harry Cox. Maybe you'd like to drop them a line, so they'll know that the Hopewell NEWS does "ring the bell" with you.

And of course, the Editor is always glad to get the latest low-down on how you are doing. Keep 'em coming, and I'll keep 'em going out to you.

So, until next time, best of luck to you.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON
Editor

97 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, N. J.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Edition
Limited

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II, No. 3 Hopewell, N.J., Feb. 14, 1944 17th Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

With this issue, the "Hopewell News" begins its second year. How the time does fly! Yessir, sixteen issues were turned out during the past 12 months, so the practice of "going to press" about every three weeks has been pretty well maintained. It really began on Jan. 25, 1943, when a letter to half a dozen fellows from Calvary Baptist Church here in Hopewell included a sheet headed "This and That About Hopewell"--just some stray news items that might interest fellows away from home. The idea caught on; so on Feb. 17, 1943, another issue was turned out and sent to about 10 fellows. And now--well, the circulation has grown and grown until the "newspaper" goes to about 40 in military service and nearly 100 readers in Hopewell and vicinity.

It will be kept going for a while, you can depend upon that. In fact, it looks as if we just couldn't quit now, even if so inclined. Folks just keep insisting upon sharing the cost until right now the cash on hand will take care of the first six issues of 1944. And if a real campaign for circulation was ever staged, we might have to get going on a weekly basis--and then what would I do about my regular job?

To give credit where it's due, the cost of this issue has been met through the generosity of the following: Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Higgins, and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hill, of Hopewell; and Dr. Winfield S. Booth, of Rutherford, N.J. The latter, after seeing a copy, liked the idea so much that, even though he does not know a single Hopewell fellow to whom it goes, sent a donation and commented that he felt that he wanted to have a part in it. You know, this old world contains a lot of fine people who are interested in helping the other fellow.

So the "Hopewell News" goes on and on: It's a grab-bag of news--items about doings in Calvary Baptist Church, about fellows who are in the armed forces, about events in Hopewell and the like. How often in the future? About every third week, as heretofore. Hope every issue will find you eager to receive it.

ED SHEPPARD MAY BE IN ACTION

With the daily newspapers telling how the Marines and the Army cooperated to conquer the Marshall Islands out in the Pacific, it looks as if Ed Sheppard may have been in the thick of the assault. He is with the Fourth Marine Division and the news accounts have told how "The north end of the atoll of Kwajalein, with the airdrome at Rei and the adjacent repair and dispersal base at Namur, were entirely in the hands of Fourth Division Marines." These amphibious landings take their toll, however, and all of Ed's friends only hope that there wasn't a bullet nor a shell flying around with his name on it. There's a yarn that is worth re-telling right here. One soldier, trying to instill a little courage into a timid soldier, explained, "You know, there is only one bullet--only one--with your name on it." The nervous soldier replied: "Maybe so, but I'm worrying about the big shell that's labeled: 'To Whom It May Concern!'"

WOUNDED VETERAN EXPECTED HOME

Because of a pledge made by a "buddy" of her husband, Marian Laning Zirkler has received the welcome news that the latter, Earl Zirkler may be on his way back to the U.S.A. He was originally reported missing in action in Sicily, but actually had been wounded and moved to North Africa for hospital treatment. In recent letters, he indicated that he thought he might be sent home on furlough. Then, a few days ago, Marian had a phone call. It was from Earl's "buddy." He explained that he and Earl had promised each other that upon arrival in this country, relatives of the other would be given a report about the status of things at the first opportunity. Earl, he said, was quite O.K. again, and probably would have a furlough before being re-assigned. He added that he believed Earl might already be started for home, but might be sent to Minnesota, his home State, before starting his furlough. Earl, you may recall, was at Fort Dix, met Marian, wedded her and very shortly thereafter was sent overseas.

IMPROVEMENTS UNDER WAY

Calvary Baptist Church is known as a humming church, and it's even more so these days. However, some of it right now is due to the use of a floor-sanding machine with Fred Sutphen at the controls. The floor of the church auditorium is being re-conditioned as a preliminary to laying new carpet. All the church benches have to be moved and as a result, church services for the next couple of weeks will be held in the church basement. The new carpet is gorgeous, being wine-colored and should really "dress up" the church. It is to be placed not only in the main aisle and on the platform, but also in the side aisles and in the choir loft.

Downstairs, the Beginners' room is now completely re-decorated. It looks like it really belonged to little folks, with figures from nursery rhymes to set off the cream-colored paint, with light-blue trimmings. Even the little chairs have been re-painted light blue with dainty seat covers, figured with children picking flowers, etc.

The basement floor is soon to have a coat of paint, and about the same time, the Primary room is to be re-painted.

"Pat" Lake, who lives directly back of the parsonage, is taking charge of the heater fires--although during the week two of the three heaters are permitted to go out to conserve coal. However, Leon Hill brought down a big load of wood and that makes it easier to get the fires going anew.

SEARCH FOR A PASTOR CONTINUES

The Pulpit Committee is still on the trail of a capable pastor. The plan being followed is to assemble information on the prospects, go as a committee to hear those that seem like possibilities and later to bring the man who seems to rate most favorably. It is understood that the Committee has three or four good prospects lined up, but they are some distance away, so it may be necessary to bring them to Hope-well, to save the Committee from undertaking long trips. The group, headed by Lloyd Drake, is really applying itself to the task but it's a job in which it doesn't pay to hurry too much. Meanwhile, the same committee arranges for supply pastors from Sunday to Sunday. Dr. Miles W. Smith, of the Baptist Publication Society, Phila., has been heard three times and Dr. Joseph W. Seay, the new headmaster of Pennington School, once, thus far.

GEORGE DILES TELLS ONE

You know George Diles, of course, who comes down from "up on the mountain" carrying his heavy knotted ouzel, and with his laugh the alarms women and children unless they know George. Well, George belongs to the Saurland Mountain Sports Club and he sat down with the other members for the annual roast-chicken dinner at Ockelmann's the other night. It was quite an occasion and tongues got well limbered up by the time the speaking program got under way. Finally, they called on George Diles for a speech. He really gave them a story. George told how he went deer-hunting this fall. He said he had rare good luck, coming upon two bucks. When he looked down the barrel of his gun, however, he discovered that they were standing in such a way that if he pulled the trigger, he probably would kill both bucks with one shot. And as George explained: "That was too much for me. I knew that I'd be fined \$250 if I killed more than one, so there wasn't nothing I could do but put down my gun and start for home!"

WEDS SON OF FORMER SPANISH PREMIER

The old town is really all a-twitter about the wedding of Miss Jeanne-Francis Fetter, daughter of Bob Fetter, of Loyallen Street. Her husband is none other than Romulo Negrin, whose father held forth as Premier of Spain in the days before France began to run the show. And if Franco should happen to get toppled from power, it might happen that former Premier Juan Negrin would be right in there again. At present, he is in London and in fact on the morning of the wedding was in touch with the wedding principals. It seems that Jeanne-Francis met Romulo at the shore some time ago. More recently, she has been studying art in New York, while he just graduated from N.Y.U. In fact, they hurried away, taking a plane to Mexico since his student visa wouldn't permit him to tarry. He had served in the air corps of the Spanish Republic as a captain. The young couple may reside later in California, it is reported.

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS PARADES

Residents had their first glimpse of the newly-formed drum and bugle corps during the past week. The band, with 20 to 30 members, was out to drum up sales of War Bonds. They marched and played "You're In the Army Now"--their chief tune right now. After all, it's only been going a few weeks and you couldn't expect them to have a bookful of tunes learned so soon. Rehearsals are now held in the basement of our church.

PRETTY BLUE PACKAGE

Some of the students figured in an unusual War Bond sale held at Princeton High recently. Students brought "white elephants" odds and ends that they wanted to unload, and wrapped up to add an element of surprise to the auctioning. Bids were in terms of war stamps or bonds. As students are buying stamps and bonds daily, there was a lot of money in the crowd. One item, for instance, actually sold for a \$750 bond.

But this is a story chiefly about what happened to Harry McCandless. Other students knew that he was prepared to buy a \$75 bond. So right after the first sale, amounting to \$5, had been made, the auctioneer held up a neat little package, done up in blue ribbon. Harry had been tipped off that it was really worthwhile. So he began to bid fast and furiously. Dick Lewis, who was in on the plot, kept the bidding going and the price went up and up. Dick eased off when Harry had bid \$75. Harry opened the package he had purchased and it was a rattle!

LOSES HER SKIRT WHILE GOING TO WORK

Margaret Hulfish, the bike rider, is hoping that anyone who heard about her losing her skirt while she was riding to work, will get the story straight--if it has to be repeated. She pedals furiously on her way to "H.A.'s" usually allowing about four minutes from home to office. These days, she usually wears ski pants and carries her skirt in the basket on her bike, making the change upon arrival. In making a mad dash a few mornings ago, she wasn't aware that her skirt had tumbled out of the basket until she reached the office. On her way back to look for it, she met Asa Hill. He had driven over it, before he realized that it might be Margaret's skirt. So he had recovered it, and handing the skirt to Margaret, he remarked: "It's a good thing you didn't lose your britches."

PASTOR JOHNSTON DIGS IN

From Vineland comes word that our former pastor, N. Vance Johnston, is running a heavy schedule already, with a string of meetings, a funeral, hospital calls and general visiting. He's already held a social to rejuvenate the Young People's Society and his sermons are now on a two-a-day Sunday schedule. The Vineland church gave a reception to the new pastor and his family and even the Mayor of the burg turned out to say welcome. Reporting on the affair, Mr. Johnston wrote: "The chairman of the Pulpit Committee then presented the great man himself who spoke in his usual impressive vein (ahem!) and after that the moments of glory began slowly to fade and I am becoming just the minister." As former pastor here, he continues greatly interested in activities, remarking that "a well-organized church should be able to run on its own merit and if the church goes well since I'm away, I shall be delighted; and if it goes even better, I shall not be surprised."

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR OYSTERS?

Cliff Higgins, going home from work, stopped in Spencer Moore's for some oysters. Moore told him that if he wanted to open his own, rather than wait, it would be all right. So Cliff Higgins went downstairs, and Harry Riley, who was with him, went along. While Cliff worked, Harry stood beside him and talked. In due time, they resumed their homeward journey. Just as Cliff Higgins got out of the car, Harry Riley--still discussing sea food, asked: "Do you like clams, Clifford?" Cliff replied "Sure do" and then they said goodbye. When Higgins took off his overcoat, he found that Harry Riley had slipped a clam into the overcoat pocket, apparently while Cliff was busy opening his oysters. And what became of the clam? Well, Mrs. Higgins, who hasn't been too well, got to wishing for a little clam broth one day, and so the clam served a useful purpose after all.

SCHOOL ELECTION

to

Sam Hunt was re-elected to the Board of Education last Tuesday night. Two new members were added, Max O. Laird and Richard E. Reed, both running unopposed. Raymond VanDyke was chosen to fill an unexpired term. In the Fourth Grade, Mrs. Dezzie Casey has been substituting for a few days. The Grammar School children still talk about the teacher brought in last Fall to take over the Sixth Grade, who stayed exactly one day. At noon, she had said she was thinking about bringing a whip the next day, but instead she didn't return, sending word after she reached Trenton that she didn't want the job.

ANYWAY, IT'S SOAP

A young lad, Jimmy Thompson, works in Moore's store after school and Saturdays. He's willing and pretty spry but recently he had a little trouble with the name of one of the items in stock. He wanted to have a box of soap, so he said: "Mr. Moore, where shall I put this Fleas-Naptha soap?" Mr. Moore replied: "Jimmy, only yesterday I told you that it's Fleas-Naptha soap and fleas have nothing to do with it!"

GOOD TRAPPING

Fox-hunting is becoming quite a business around the Hopewell area. Orville Carkhuff, who buys up the pelts, had 11 in stock recently, four red ones and seven gray. He also had a coon larger than any of the foxes. It seems to be a season with lots of skunks and possums but light on the coons and muskrats. Young George Carkhuff is doing his first trapping this year, starting where his older brother, Junior, left off. The latter is now working for Jake VanDoren. Young George, in his first year of it, has had two skunks, one possum, one coon, one weasel--and five wood mice.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Dennis VanLiew was last reported to be in England. Word of his safe arrival came through speedily, as a friend in his outfit cabled home and the recipients passed the word along to the VanLiews....Bob Hill, F 1/c, has been assigned to the U.S.S. Knox and apparently is at sea. He had moved up from Norfolk to Newport, R.I....George Phillips, S. F 1/c, who re-entered the Navy and has been with the Station Force at Davisville, R. I., was expecting that he would be reassigned. He's been anxious to take a wallop at the Japs. Incidentally, George tells how most every man in the service is buying War Bonds out of his pay, adding that "I wonder if the people outside know this."

Sgt. Bruce Gray must have had something big to tell when he wrote recently. One whole paragraph was cut out of his letter. He's in England, working in a General Hospital, part of his job being to handle the funds of patients. So he occasionally rides in a jeep to the town bank.....Pvt. Harry "Hap" Erickson has just sent word that he is now at Camp Cooke, California. It's close to the Pacific Coast, up from San Diego....Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, now a Paratrooper, is at Camp MacKall, North Carolina, after being earlier at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Graham Benson, now a Private, First Class, in the Marines, was home on his first furlough. He's looking great and has acquired a marksman's medal. He's lined up for training as an Aviation Mechanic, he believes, and if so, he'll be working along the line he hoped to enter. And what does a Marine do when he's home on furlough? Well, Graham went up to the Benson's cabin "up on the mountain" because he wanted to do a little shooting!....Harold Temple, A/C, has left Florida after having over 100 hours flying PT-17's. Now he's in a new school at Gunter Field, Montgomery, Alabama, where he's learning to fly heavier ships. Now it's Basic Training, and so he flies BT-13's. Already, he has done a solo in a BT-13 and "It seems like a swell ship," Harold adds. Soon he will be getting night flying, cross-country and formation work. He also reports that Gunter Field is a nice Army post.

Arch Litzen, A.M.M. 2/c, mailed something real interesting to the Editor--a copy of the first issue of a shipboard newspaper published aboard the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Bataan. Arch, of course, is on duty aboard the Bataan. It's chockful of the spirit of the U.S. Navy and makes breezy reading. In it appear the words of the official ship song, to the tune of "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet," and the chorus goes as follows: "She is clean, she is classy, she is bright and she is brassy; What a punch she packs for old Japan! For she flies Old Glory And she'll add up to some story--She's the U.S.S. Bataan."

Here's a line or two about a few others: Bill Lanning, the drummer but now in the Army, was married on Feb. 2 to a Flemington girl Marie Louise VanRoy....Russ's "Hokey" Holcombe, Jr. thinks Army life is great stuff, even though, for example, he was drenched one day until he could wring water out of his "woollies," but even then he didn't catch cold.....Paul Cutter, Jr. is attending Foreign Language School, with a chance at being used as an interpreter when troops move into invaded territory.....Charles Bregenzler, it is reported, is in a hospital after having his feet frozen while in the Italian campaign. The rumor is that they had feared he might have to undergo amputation but that was averted.....Bill Johnson, home from Cornell because he was ill for five weeks after the mid-term recess, has passed his Army physical and probably will be in uniform very soon.

Why LIBRARY BOOK WAS OVERDUE

In the newspapers the other day there was a little item that shows how different things are these days. Up in Montclair, N.J., a borrower returned a book that was overdue. He explained why. It seems that he had lent it to a friend and the latter, being a transport pilot had taken it with him on a flight to England and return. In fact, he had read some of it while on the return trip. On the strength of that story, the borrower of the book was excused from paying a fine for the late return of the book.

CHURCH NEWS

It took a lot of giggling but more than a dozen of the L.L.L. Class (younger women formerly taught by Mrs. Johnston) held a successful "Progressive Supper" last Wednesday night. They ate in four different homes, starting at Roma Weaver's for tomato juice and crackers, then going to Dorothy Rowley's for Waldorf salad (you know, apples, raisins, celery, nuts, etc); then to Isabel Wyckoff's for cheeseburgers, potato salad, cole slaw, pickles and coffee; and to Ashtons for chocolate nute sundaes and cookies....With the church fires shut down, the choir is rehearsing regularly now at Ashtons. with a men's chorus being developed to do a little warbling at the quarterly business meeting this coming Friday....Quite a rivalry developed one recent Sunday morning when several boys wanted to have a hand in ringing the church bell, and it looked for a few seconds as if there might be a tussle in the church balcony.....A week ago, the Bible School collection of \$6.66 was donated for missionary work....The map showing where our service men are located, with their mail addresses, still attracts attention in the church vestibule, being kept right up to date....Heavy snow, the first real storm of the Winter and amounting to eight inches or so, cancelled out a meeting of the Board of Deacons on Friday night.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

The Cox & Cray barber-shop has been having a new interior coat of paint and really looks all "dressed up."Speaking of paint, it was quite a sight to see a coat of paint being applied to a coal bin--of all things--back of the A. & P. store. However, it was new wooden box; so the paint was applied--and white at that.....Mrs. Keturah Pierson, mother of Dr. Pierson, is very ill and handicapped by advanced age. Mrs. Ira Blackwell is her night nurse and every morning before 8 A. M., Ira strolls down to escort his wife back home.

Andy Wyckoff is back after a trip to Alabama to visit his Mother. He had said before he went that if he liked Alabama, he might come back and sell out his goods, rent the former Dalrymple house out and move down South. New Jersey probably looks pretty good to Andy, though, after one glimpse at Alabam'....Betty Weart left last Thursday to spend a couple of weeks in Florida. She was so excited about it that the doctor had to give her nerve medicine....The Harry Rileys also are due to go to Florida but have had trouble making reservations since everything seems to be filled up down there...

Gebhart's Hotel has a brand-new canopy awning. The previous one was torn and ripped, hanging in shreds before being replaced. Also, at the 5 & 10, next to Cutter's, a new awning has been installed. Looks as if they're expecting Spring before long.....Bingo--is it the game that's silly or the people that play it?--has been resumed in town. The parties are being held at St. Alphonsus' Church, with chickens among the prizes being offered.

Those OPA inspectors who hit town a short time back didn't get much in the way of evidence, apparently, for it is understood that the charges against two or three stores have been dropped. It's the same old question as to whether ceiling prices are being respected.... Quite a lot of soft-coal and buckwheat is being burned as the supply continues at low ebb. Some local residents are getting so keen-cared that they know exactly when a carload of coal is shunted into a siding at Hills or VanDorens, and then do the telephones get busy....The fire siren blew a few minutes before church time last Sunday morning, and the engines went up around Zion where firemen combatted a grass fire.MacIntosh, the upholsterer, has orders booked well ahead, due to the difficulty in getting materials, which are eased out slowly by the makers because of government regulations....Joe McAlinden, of Prospect Street, has enlisted in the Navy....Jimmy Hall heads a dancing club organized by a group to provide a little recreation.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR PET HEN

Mrs. Daniel Righter has a pet hen and she's named it "Mary Lou." New "Mary Lou" developed some unusual traits last Summer. Around 11 A.M., this hen came to the back door and clucked to come in. Mrs. Righter obliged and the hen came in and laid an egg on the kitchen floor. The next day, "Mary Lou" was back again and laid another egg. And so it continued. Then came a day when Mrs. Righter had gone to Trenton. The hen clucked at the back door but no answer. So it ambled around to the front door. Still getting no answer, it jumped up on the arm of a chair and peered in the window. Neighbors will vouch for that as a true statement of facts. When Mrs. Righter returned, the hen scolded a little but laid an egg anyway. Now that Winter is here, the hen has been moulted but it still comes to the house every night, is admitted and goes to the cellar, there to be watched by a jealous cat.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

An English poet, Paul Talbot, gives some direct news about the date when the war will end, as follows:

"Absolute knowledge have I none
 But my aunt's washerwoman's sister's son
 Heard a policeman on his beat
 Say to a laborer in the street
 That he had a letter just last week
 Written in the finest Greek
 From a Chinese coolie in Timbuktu
 Who said that the natives of Cuba knew
 Of a colored man in a Texas town
 Who got it straight from a circus clown...
 That a chap way over in Borneo
 Said that he had happened to know
 Of a sublimated social rake
 Whose mother-in-law would undertake
 To prove that her husband's sister's niece
 Had stated in a printed piece
 That she had a son, who had a friend
 Who said he knew the war would end.

 A colored fellow called to see his friend in a hospital. He was told that he could not see him as his friend was convalescing. "Convalescing?" the visitor repeated, scratching his head. Then he added: "Well, I'll just sit down and wait until he's through."

Inscription on a monument in France marking the grave of an Army mule (World War I): "In memory of Maggie who, in her time, kicked two Colonels, four Majors, ten Captains, 24 Lieutenants, 42 Sergeants 432 of other ranks and one Mills bomb."

"I understand you have your divorce, Mandy. Do you get any Alimony?"

"No, Mrs. Jones, but mah husband done give me a fust-class reference."

"When I left Camp Dix, I didn't owe anyone a cent."
 "What an unfortunate time to leave!"

Stella--"My, your heart's beating like a drum."
 Soldier--"Yeah, that's the call to arms."

Soldier: "Cook, that meat is sure tough!"
 Cook: "Sure! We don't serve any sissy meat here."

A druggist put this sign on the front of his store: "Wanted, soda fountain clerk, full or part time, experienced or inexperienced, man or woman." When he read it again to see what caused the sidewalk merriment, he found that the town wag had added: "Dead or alive."

Definitions:

Debt--People who run into it usually try to crawl out of it.

Model marriage--One in which the wife is a treasure and the husband a treasury.

Relatives--Inherited critics.

Ring--Putting a ring on a girl's third finger puts you under her thumb.

Pretty secretary--A girl who can't add but who can certainly distract.

IN CLOSING

Here's hoping you've enjoyed this issue of the "Hopewell News." If it's given you a few smiles, a few pleasant recollections of old friends and acquaintances and reminded you that the folks back home have you always in their thoughts, it's served its purpose.

Letters are always welcomed because of personal interest, but also so that news that others are eager to read about you can be gleaned first-hand in that way. Best of luck to you.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
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and Then About Your Town, Your
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SPECIAL
EDITION

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II, No. 3 Hopewell, N. J., Feb. 23, 1944

17th Issue

BY WAY OF EXPLANATION

This comes to you as a Special Edition of the "Hopewell News." While this big, little newspaper has been a-going for a full year now, it hasn't always been easy to get. As a matter of fact, it came into existence in order to carry news from Calvary Baptist Church to its fellows who are in the military service. Then things began to happen. Folks around town began to ask for it, and the circulation crept up and up. So, it has been decided to make this "Special Edition" available to anyone who is interested.

Since it's really aimed at those who are away from home, the purpose of the "newspaper" will be best served when it's traveled many miles to reach those who are hungry for home-town news. Hope you'll like it. It contains a little bit of everything--events around town, with those who are in the armed forces, a little light reading.

It's issued every three or four weeks, and since this is a typical issue, you may decide that it's quite a Baptist booster. Sure, that's what it was intended for, but if it should be decided that a considerable number of people want to get it regularly, it may be altered to some extent to make it of general interest.

But now to the news.

ED SHEPPARD MAY BE IN ACTION

With the daily newspapers telling how the Marines and the Army cooperated to conquer the Marshall Islands out in the Pacific, it looks as if Ed Sheppard may have been in the thick of the assault. He is with the Fourth Marine Division and the news accounts have told how "The north end of the atoll of Kwajalein, with the airdrome at Roi and the adjacent repair and dispersal base at Namur, were entirely in the hands of the Fourth Division Marines." These amphibious landings take their toll, however, and all of Ed's friends only hope that there wasn't a bullet nor a shell flying around with his name on it. There's a yearn that is worth retelling right here. One soldier, trying to instill a little courage into a timid pal, explained: "You know, there is only one bullet--only one--with your name on it." The nervous soldier replied: "Maybe so, but I'm worried about the big shell that's labeled 'To Whom It May Concern!'"

WOUNDED VETERAN EXPECTED HOME

After days and weeks of suspense, Marian Laning Zirkler has received the welcome news that her husband, Earl ("Bud") is back in the good old U.S.A. He was originally reported missing in action in Sicily, but actually had been wounded and moved to North Africa for hospital treatment. Then in recent letters he indicated that he thought he might be sent home on furlough. Next, there came a phone call from one of his "buddies," who had made a pledge jointly with Earl that if he was the first to get back to this country, he would phone without fail to relatives of the other, to give a first-hand report. Earl's pal really had good news, for he revealed that quite likely Earl was then on his way back. And so it proved to be. Earl, he said, was quite O. K. again, and probably would be reassigned after his furlough. Earl--if you have forgotten--was the Minnesota fellow who came to Fort Dix, and while in this area, met Marian, wedded her and very shortly thereafter was sent overseas.

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS PARADES

The newly formed drum and bugle corps, being trained by Mr. Edward Doman, staged its first parade to drum up sales of War bonds. It consists of 20 to 30 members and they played "You're In the Army Now"--their chief tune right now. After all, it was organized only a few weeks ago and you couldn't expect a bookful of tunes so soon. Rehearsals are being held in the basement of Calvary Baptist Church.

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The old town is still all a-twitter about the wedding of Miss Jeanne-Francis Fetter, daughter of Bob Fetter, of Louellen Street. Her husband is none other than Romulo Negrin, whose father held forth as Premier of Spain in the days before General Franco began to run the show. And if Franco should happen to get toppled from power, it might happen that former Premier Juan Negrin would be right in there again. At present, he is in London and in fact on the morning of the wedding was in touch with his son and the bride-to-be. It seems that Jeanne-Francis met Romulo at the shore some time ago. More recently he has been studying art in New York and has just graduated from N.Y. University. In fact, they hurried away, taking a plane to Mexico because his student vise wouldn't permit him to tarry. He had served in the air corps of the Spanish Republic as a captain. The young couple may reside later in California, it is reported.

GEORGE DILES TELLS ONE

You know George Diles, of course, who comes down from "up on the mountain" carrying his heavy oudgel, and with the laugh that alarms women and children unless they know George. Well, George belongs to the Sourland Mountain Sports Club and so he sat down with other members for the annual roast-chicken dinner at Ockelmann's the other night. It was quite an occasion and tongues got well limbered up by the time the speaking program really warmed up. Finally, they called on George Diles for a speech. He really gave them a story.

George told how he went deer-hunting this past Fall. He said he had rare good luck, coming upon two bucks. When he looked down the barrel of his gun, however, he discovered that the two bucks were standing in such a way that if he pulled the trigger, he probably would kill both with one shot! And as George explained: "That was too much for me. I knew I'd be fined \$250 or so if I killed more than one, so there wasn't anything I could but put down my gun and start for home!"

IMPROVEMENTS UNDER WAY

Calvary Baptist Church is known as a humming church, and it's even more so of late. However, some of it has been due to the use of a floor-sanding machine with Fred Sutphen or his brother, Harry, at the controls. The floor of the church auditorium has been re-conditioned as a preliminary to laying new carpet. All the church benches had to be removed to clear the way. The work went amazingly swift and it took less than a week for the floors to be transformed into "as good as new." In fact, it seems a shame to cover up the aisles. However, the new carpet also is gorgeous, being wine-colored and should really "dress up" the church. It's expected that it will be laid within a very few days.

Downstairs, the Beginners' room is now completely re-decorated. It looks as if it really belongs to little folks, with the cream-colored paint embellished with figures from nursery rhymes, and light-blue trimming. Even the little chairs have been re-painted light blue with dainty seat covers, figured with children picking flowers, etc.

The basement floor is seen to have a coat of paint, and about the same time, the Primary room is to be re-painted.

"Pat" Lake, who lives directly back of the parsonage, is taking care of the heater fires. However, two of the three heaters have been permitted to go out during the week of late, in order to conserve coal. However, Leen Hill brought a load of wood down and that makes it easier to get the fires going anew.

SEARCH FOR A PASTOR CONTINUES

The Pulpit Committee of Calvary Baptist Church is still on the trail of a capable pastor, to succeed Rev. N. Vance Johnston. They have arranged to bring a candidate next Sunday, who will be heard with interest. He is the Rev. E. F. Pruden, of Carnegie, Pa. The plan followed by the Committee has been to assemble all available information on the prospects, and on that basis, about 20 men have been given consideration to date. Several are looked up as quite promising. Lloyd Drake heads the Committee, for whom it is really quite a task since there is so much responsibility when it comes to recommending a new pastor.

Since Mr. Johnston's departure in mid-January, the congregation has been addressed on four occasions by Dr. Miles W. Smith, of the American Baptist Publication Society, and on another Sunday by Dr. Joseph W. Seay, the new headmaster of Pennington School.

PRETTY BLUE PACKAGE

Topsoil students figured in an unusual War Bond sale held at Princeton High recently. Students brought "white elephants" odds and ends that they wanted to unload, and wrapped up to add an element of surprise to the auctioning. Bids were in terms of war stamps or bonds. As students are buying stamps and bonds daily, there was a lot of money in the crowd. One item, for instance, actually sold for a \$750 bond.

But this is a story chiefly about what happened to Harry McCandless. Other students knew that he was prepared to buy a \$75 bond. So right after the first sale, amounting to \$5, had been made, the auctioneer held up a neat little package, done up in blue ribbon. Harry had been tipped off that it was really worthwhile. So he began to bid fast and furiously. Dick Lewis, who was in on the plot, kept the bidding going and the price went up and up. Dick eased off when Harry had bid \$75. Harry opened the package he had purchased and it was a rattle!

LOSES HER SKIRT WHILE GOING TO WORK

Margaret Hulfish, the bike rider, is hoping that anyone who heard about her losing her skirt while she was riding to work, will get the story straight--if it has to be repeated. She pedals furiously on her way to "H.A.'s" usually allowing about four minutes from home to office. These days, she usually wears ski pants and carries her skirt in the basket on her bike, making the change upon arrival. In making a mad dash a few mornings ago, she wasn't aware that her skirt had tumbled out of the basket until she reached the office. On her way back to look for it, she met Asa Hill. He had driven over it, before he realized that it might be Margaret's skirt. So he had recovered it, and handing the skirt to Margaret, he remarked: "It's a good thing you didn't lose your britches."

PASTOR JOHNSTON DIGS IN

From Vineland comes word that our former pastor, N. Vance Johnston, is running a heavy schedule already, with a string of meetings, a funeral, hospital calls and general visiting. He's already held a social to rejuvenate the Young People's Society and his sermons are now on a two-a-day Sunday schedule. The Vineland church gave a reception to the new pastor and his family and even the Mayor of the burg turned out to say welcome. Reporting on the affair, Mr. Johnston wrote: "The chairman of the Pulpit Committee then presented the great man himself who spoke in his usual impressive vein (ahem!) and after that the moments of glory began slowly to fade and I am becoming just the minister." As former pastor here, he continues greatly interested in activities, remarking that "a well-organized church should be able to run on its own merit and if the church goes well since I'm away, I shall be delighted; and if it goes even better, I shall not be surprised."

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR OYSTERS?

Cliff Higgins, going home from work, stopped in Spencer Moore's for some oysters. Moore told him that if he wanted to open his own, rather than wait, it would be all right. So Cliff Higgins went downstairs, and Harry Riley, who was with him, went along. While Cliff worked, Harry stood beside him and talked. In due time, they resumed their homeward journey. Just as Cliff Higgins got out of the car, Harry Riley--still discussing sea food, asked: "Do you like clams, Clifford?" Cliff replied "Sure do" and then they said goodbye. When Higgins took off his overcoat, he found that Harry Riley had slipped a clam into the overcoat pocket, apparently while Cliff was busy opening his oysters. And what became of the clam? Well, Mrs. Higgins, who hasn't been too well, got to wishing for a little clam broth one day, and so the clam served a useful purpose after all.

SCHOOL ELECTION

to

Sam Hunt was re-elected the Board of Education last Tuesday night. Two new members were added, Max O. Laird and Richard E. Reed, both running unopposed. Raymond VanDyke was chosen to fill an unexpired term. In the Fourth Grade, Mrs. Dezzie Casey has been substituting for a few days. The Grammar School children still talk about the teacher brought in last Fall to take over the Sixth Grade, who stayed exactly one day. At noon, she had said she was thinking about bringing a whip the next day, but instead she didn't return, sending word after she reached Trenton that she didn't want the job.

ANYWAY, IT'S SOAP

A young lad, Jimmy Thompson, works in Moore's store after school and Saturdays. He's willing and pretty spry but recently he had a little trouble with the name of one of the items in stock. He wanted to have a box of soap, so he said: "Mr. Moore, where shall I put this Fleas-Naptha soap?" Mr. Moore replied: "Jimmy, only yesterday I told you that it's Fels-Naptha soap and fleas have nothing to do with it!"

GOOD TRAPPING

Fox-hunting is becoming quite a business around the Hopewell area. Orville Carkhuff, who buys up the pelts, had 11 in stock recently, four red ones and seven gray. He also had a coon larger than any of the foxes. It seems to be a season with lots of skunks and possums but light on the coons and muskrats. Young George Carkhuff is doing his first trapping this year, starting where his older brother, Junior, left off. The latter is now working for Jake VanDoren. Young George, in his first year of it, has had two skunks, one possum, one coon, one weasel--and five wood mice.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Dennis VanLiew was last reported to be in England. Word of his safe arrival came through speedily, as a friend in his outfit cabled home and the recipients passed the word along to the VanLiews....Bob Hill, F 1/c, has been assigned to the U.S.S. Knox and apparently is at sea. He had moved up from Norfolk to Newport, R.I....George Phillips, S. F 1/c, who re-entered the Navy and has been with the Station Force at Davisville, R. I., was expecting that he would be reassigned. He's been anxious to take a wallop at the Japs. Incidentally, George tells how most every man in the service is buying War Bonds out of his pay, adding that "I wonder if the people outside know this."

Sgt. Bruce Cray must have had something big to tell when he wrote recently. One whole paragraph was cut out of his letter. He's in England, working in a General Hospital, part of his job being to handle the funds of patients. So he occasionally rides in a jeep to the town bank.....Pvt. Harry "Hap" Errickson has just sent word that he is now at Camp Cooke, California. It's close to the Pacific Coast, up from San Diego....Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, now a Paratrooper, is at Camp MacKall, North Carolina, after being earlier at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Graham Benson, now a Private, First Class, in the Marines, was home on his first furlough. He's looking great and has acquired a marksman's medal. He's lined up for training as an Aviation Mechanic, he believes, and if so, he'll be working along the line he hoped to enter. And what does a Marine do when he's home on furlough? Well, Graham went up to the Benson's cabin "up on the mountain" because he wanted to do a little shooting!....Harold Temple, A/C, has left Florida after having over 100 hours flying PT-17's. Now he's in a new school at Gunter Field, Montgomery, Alabama, where he's learning to fly heavier ships. Now it's Basic Training, and so he flies BT-13's. Already, he has done a solo in a BT-13 and "It seems like a swell ship," Harold adds. Soon he will be getting night flying, cross-country and formation work. He also reports that Gunter Field is a nice Army post.

Arch Litzen, A.M.M. 2/c, mailed something real interesting to the Editor--a copy of the first issue of a shipboard newspaper published aboard the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Bataan. Arch, of course, is on duty aboard the Bataan. It's chockful of the spirit of the U.S. Navy and makes breezy reading. In it appear the words of the official ship song, to the tune of "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet," and the chorus goes as follows: "She is clean, she is classy, she is bright and she is brassy; What a punch she packs for old Japan! For she flies Old Glory And she'll add up to some story--She's the U.S.S. Bataan!"

Here's a line or two about a few others: Bill Lanning, the drummer but now in the Army, was married on Feb. 2 to a Flemington girl, Marie Louise VanRoy....Russ "Hokey" Helcombe, Jr. thinks Army life is great stuff, even though, for example, he was drenched one day until he could wring water out of his "woollies," but even then he didn't catch cold.....Paul Cutter, Jr. is attending Foreign Language School, with a chance at being used as an interpreter when troops move into invaded territory....Charles Bregenzler, it is reported, is in a hospital after having his feet frozen while in the Italian campaign. The rumor is that they had feared he might have to undergo amputation but that was averted....Bill Johnson, home from Cornell because he was ill for five weeks after the mid-term recess, has passed his Army physical and probably will be in uniform very soon.

Why LIBRARY BOOK WAS OVERDUE

In the newspapers the other day there was a little item that shows how different things are these days. Up in Montclair, N.J., a borrower returned a book that was overdue. He explained why. It seems that he had lent it to a friend and the latter, being a transport pilot had taken it with him on a flight to England and return. In fact, he had read some of it while on the return trip. On the strength of that story, the borrower of the book was excused from paying a fine for the late return of the book.

CHURCH NEWS

It took a lot of giggling but more than a dozen of the L.L.L. Class (younger women formerly taught by Mrs. Johnston) held a successful "Progressive Supper" last Wednesday night. They ate in four different homes, starting at Roma Weaver's for tomato juice and crackers, then going to Dorothy Rowley's for Waldorf salad (you know, apples, raisins, celery, nuts, etc); then to Isabel Wyckoff's for cheeseburgers, potato salad, cole slaw, pickles and coffee; and to Ashtons for chocolate nute sundaes and cookies....With the church fires shut down, the choir is rehearsing regularly now at Ashtons, with a men's chorus being developed to do a little warbling at the quarterly business meeting this coming Friday....Quite a rivalry developed one recent Sunday morning when several boys wanted to have a hand in ringing the church bell, and it looked for a few seconds as if there might be a tussle in the church balcony....A week ago, the Bible School collection of \$6.66 was donated for missionary work....The map showing where our service men are located, with their mail addresses, still attracts attention in the church vestibule, being kept right up to date....Heavy snow, the first real storm of the Winter and amounting to eight inches or so, cancelled out a meeting of the Board of Deacons on Friday night.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

The Cox & Cray barber-shop has been having a new interior coat of paint and really looks all "dressed up."Speaking of paint, it was quite a sight to see a coat of paint being applied to a coal bin--of all things--back of the A. & P. store. However, it was new wooden box; so the paint was applied--and white at that....Mrs. Keturah Pierson, mother of Dr. Pierson, is very ill and handicapped by advanced age. Mrs. Ira Blackwell is her night nurse and every morning before 8 A. M., Ira strolls down to escort his wife back home.

Andy Wyckoff is back after a trip to Alabama to visit his Mother. He had said before he went that if he liked Alabama, he might come back and sell out his goods, rent the former Dalrymple house out and move down South. New Jersey probably looks pretty good to Andy, though, after one glimpse at Alabam'....Betty Weart left last Thursday to spend a couple of weeks in Florida. She was so excited about it that the doctor had to give her nerve medicine....The Harry Rileys also are due to go to Florida but have had trouble making reservations since everything seems to be filled up down there...

Gebhart's Hotel has a brand-new canopy awning. The previous one was torn and ripped, hanging in shreds before being replaced. Also, at the 5 & 10, next to Cutter's, a new awning has been installed. Looks as if they're expecting Spring before long.....Bingo--is it the game that's silly or the people that play it?--has been resumed in town. The parties are being held at St. Alphensus' Church, with chickens among the prizes being offered.

Those OPA inspectors who hit town a short time back didn't get much in the way of evidence, apparently, for it is understood that the charges against two or three stores have been dropped. It's the same old question as to whether ceiling prices are being respected.... Quite a lot of soft-coal and buckwheat is being burned as the supply continues at low ebb. Some local residents are getting so keen-cared that they know exactly when a carload of coal is shunted into a siding at Hills or VanDorens, and then do the telephones get busy....The fire siren blew a few minutes before church time last Sunday morning, and the engines went up around Zion where firemen combatted a grass fire.MacIntosh, the upholsterer, has orders booked well ahead, due to the difficulty in getting materials, which are eased out slowly by the makers because of government regulations....Joe McAlinden, of Prospect Street, has enlisted in the Navy....Jimmy Hall heads a dancing club organized by a group to provide a little recreation.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR PET HEN

Mrs. Daniel Righter has a pet hen and she's named it "Mary Lou." New "Mary Lou" developed some unusual traits last Summer. Around 11 A.M., this hen came to the back door and clucked to come in. Mrs. Righter obliged and the hen came in and laid an egg on the kitchen floor. The next day, "Mary Lou" was back again and laid another egg. And so it continued. Then came a day when Mrs. Righter had gone to Trenton. The hen clucked at the back door but no answer. So it ambled around to the front door. Still getting no answer, it jumped up on the arm of a chair and peered in the window. Neighbors will vouch for that as a true statement of facts. When Mrs. Righter returned, the hen scolded a little but laid an egg anyway. Now that Winter is here, the hen has been moulting but it still comes to the house every night, is admitted and goes to the cellar, there to be watched by a jealous cat.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

An English poet, Paul Talbot, gives some direct news about the date when the war will end, as follows:

"Absolute knowledge have I none
 But my aunt's washerwoman's sister's son
 Heard a policeman on his beat
 Say to a laborer in the street
 That he had a letter just last week
 Written in the finest Greek
 From a Chinese coolie in Timbaktu
 Who said that the natives of Cuba knew
 Of a colored man in a Texas town
 Who got it straight from a circus clown...
 That a chap way over in Borneo
 Said that he had happened to know
 Of a sublimated social rake
 Whose mother-in-law would undertake
 To prove that her husband's sister's niece
 Had stated in a printed piece
 That she had a son, who had a friend
 Who said he knew the war would end.

 A colored fellow called to see his friend in a hospital. He was told that he could not see him as his friend was convalescing. "Convalescing?" the visitor repeated, scratching his head. Then he added: "Well, I'll just sit down and wait until he's through."

 Inscription on a monument in France marking the grave of an Army mule (World War I): "In memory of Maggie who, in her time, kicked two Colonels, four Majors, ten Captains, 24 Lieutenants, 42 Sergeants and 432 of other ranks and one Mills bomb."

 "I understand you have your divorce, Mandy. Do you get any Alimony?"

"No, Mrs. Jones, but mah husband done give me a fust-class reference."

 "When I left Camp Dix, I didn't owe anyone a cent."
 "What an unfortunate time to leave!"

 Stella--"My, your heart's beating like a drum."
 Soldier--"Yeah, that's the call to arms."

 Soldier: "Cock, that meat is sure tough!"
 Cook: "Sure! We don't serve any sissy meat here."

 A druggist put this sign on the front of his store: "Wanted, soda fountain clerk, full or part time, experienced or inexperienced, man or woman." When he read it again to see what caused the sidewalk merriment, he found that the town wag had added: "Dead or alive."

Definitions:

Debt--People who run into it usually try to crawl out of it.

Model marriage--One in which the wife is a treasure and the husband a treasury.

Relatives--Inherited critics.

Ring--Putting a ring on a girl's third finger puts you under her thumb.

Pretty secretary--A girl who can't add but who can certainly distract.

IN CLOSING

Here's hoping you've enjoyed this issue of the "Hopewell News." If it's given you a few smiles, a few pleasant recollections of old friends and acquaintances and reminded you that the folks back home have you always in their thoughts, it's served its purpose.

Letters are always welcomed because of personal interest, but also so that news that others are eager to read about you can be gleaned first-hand in that way. Best of luck to you.

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

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17th Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Greetings, everybody, and here we are once again with the news of Hopewell. Every time a new issue is started, I wonder how long it may be before copies reach some of the fellows and just where and under what circumstances it will find them. With some copies going out into the far Pacific and others to North Africa and Italy, they are certainly far-flung, to put it mildly.

Take the case of Bill Wyckoff, for example. He's a SM3/c with the Navy, you'll recall, and apparently in pretty close to things on the Italian front. By air-mail, he advises that on Feb. 11th he received issues of the "Hopewell News" dated Dec. 8, Jan. 3 and Jan. 24. Then on the next day, Lincoln's Birthday a V-mail letter and pictures in a Christmas folder mailed by the Editor. Two pictures showed the Calvary Baptist Church and of them, Bill wrote: "Those beautiful snapshots of our church really made me think of home so very much more. The church lawn and shrubbery really looked grand." Then he went on to say: "The News" letters were so very interesting. Please keep up the good work. They may arrive late and several of them all at once, but the news they carry is never stale. No news from home when received over here is stale. Believe me, here's one fellow that knows." Thanks a lot, Bill; and the same to all who have said "Keep it coming."

This issue is being produced entirely under one roof, as the "News" is now in possession of a mimeograph machine, thanks to the fine offer made by Walter Benson. He offered the use of his outfit, lying around idle, and it just seemed that perhaps this little newspaper might mean more to his sons, Erwin and Graham, if they could think that "This was run off on my Dad's outfit"--so that's the way it's being done. If hard-pressed for time, I may turn to Mildred Rathousky for help now and then, for she, too, likes to help with the job. Nice cooperation all around, I call it.

The cost of the issue has been met by other good friends--Mr. and Mrs. Harry Latta; E. Broad Street; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Erickson, of Harbourn, and Mr. Edward M. Haynes, of Skillman.

MOVING SLOWLY IN CHOICE OF PASTOR

One candidate for the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church has been heard but it remains to be seen what the next move will be. On Feb. 27th, Rev. E.F. Pruden, of Carnegie, Pa. was heard with interest and the church well-filled. He preached a powerful sermon on "No Unanswered Prayers" (something to think about there) and had a long talk with the Pulpit Committee. As yet, thoughts about his suitability have not crystallized but a congregational meeting will be held next Sunday morning. In order to keep things moving, in the event that the congregation wants to hear another man or two, tentative arrangements are being made to hear Rev. Florian Lewne (pronounced Lev-no) of Rochester, N.Y. His grandparents were Polish, but he was born and raised on a Minnesota farm; has studied abroad but lived and studied in North Jersey; and is a graduate of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School.

Meanwhile, the pulpit has been supplied by Dr. Seay, head of Pennington School, and Dr. Miles W. Smith, of the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia.

CONOVERS HONORED

When folks have been married 57 years, it's quite an accomplishment and an important occasion. So it was that Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Conover were honored by two groups over the past week-end. On Saturday night, neighbors swarmed in to extend congratulations and do a little celebratin'. Then on Sunday afternoon, deacons of Calvary Baptist Church drove up to do the same, Mr. Conover being an honorary deacon with a long record of faithful service. Loyal friends and pleasant memories are priceless possessions.

PAPER-PULLING PARTY

All the lights were aglow in the Baptist parsonage and persons who passed by must have thought that "the Baptists have a new Pastor." Through the curtainless windows could be seen a crowd of people--really a crowd--moving around and raising high jinks. They were climbing up ladders, digging away at the walls, upstairs and down, and squirting gallons of water on walls and ceilings.

It was a paper-pulling party, to get rid of the wall-paper in preparation for the arrival of a paperhanger, and there were 32 persons on the job! Furthermore, they set what must be a record, for in just three hours' time, they had removed the wallpaper from three rooms and a vestibule downstairs, the stairway, upstairs hall and two upper-floor rooms. After that, sandwiches and coffee were ready for the weary.

For the next day or two, there must have been a lot of sore muscles and a few blisters, but all in all, it was quite a party. Mrs. William Drake and Mrs. Harry Hullfish supervised the job and some of the trustees had seen to it that there was a little heat, light, etc. The working force included half a dozen deacons, one trustee, choir director, organist, five others from the choir and many from the Ladies' Aid Society, etc. The work started at 7 P.M. and it was almost a problem to find a wall where somebody wasn't at work. Some of the women got busy scrubbing the kitchen paint and the floor.

As quitting time approached, Margaret Hullfish complained that her toes ached, because she had tried to curl them up so she could cling to the step-ladder. J. Russell Riley fell from a ladder into the out-flung arms of a young lady, so it wasn't a serious mishap after all. Once there was a call for a first-aidster as Sohia Benson had a blister. Another time, Lloyd Drake was sitting or balancing himself on three step-ladders --and so it went--and so went the wallpaper.

GARDENING TIME APPROACHES

It's getting along to hard gardening time, and it's one of the lively topics in the "hot-stove" sessions held in the Cox & Gray barber shop. The other day, Ed VanArdsdale was being taken over the hurdles about his garden plot back of the Library--one of several there last Summer. First, they were talking about tomato seed, and Ed maintained that nothing was any better than his Rutgers planting. When he was asked if he wanted some "beefsteak" tomato seed, he scoffed at it, saying that half the tomato had to be thrown away.

When it came to stringbeans, Harry Cox insisted that he beat VanArdsdale by "half an hour" last Summer. And as for egg-plants, Ed was reminded--truthfully or otherwise--that he planted the rows so close to tomato vines that he lost track of his eggplants until late in the Summer.

And as for parsnips, Cox said his had grown so big that he was using dynamite now to blast them out of the frosty ground.

But they'll have to go some to beat Ira Blackwell, who's been hauling manure for his garden and like as not, his peas will be popping out of the ground most any day now.

SCHOOL CHUMS STAY TOGETHER OVERSEAS

Jack Burton, remembered as the former assistant manager of the Colonial Playhouse, is with the Army Air Force somewhere in England, but most any time he can look around and see a chum from Pennington! The latter is John Powell, who attended Central High School with Jack. When Jack enlisted in the Ordnance branch of the Air Force, he discovered that John also was at Fort Dix. From there, they were sent to bases in Georgia and Florida and then overseas together. And recently both received another stripe, making them Staff Sergeants.

Jack says he isn't accustomed to the English weather yet, and that's about what a 79-year-old Englishman remarked as he sipped his tea one afternoon.

HORSES! HORSES! HORSES!

The Western end of Broad Street seems to have gone "horsey." Adele Hurley came trotting out on one, and a few days later Howard Butcher brought two "hay-burners" into town. Dezzie Casey, who went to Bristol with Butcher to get the latter's horses, has been doing a bit of riding on one of them. Right now it's a toss-up whether Casey's Texas-style of riding is preferred to the Wyoming style that Adele acquired while she was on a Western ranch some little time back.

At any rate, Adele hurries home from her job at Eastern Aircraft to saddle her horse--stabled in a garage--and goes through town cutting quite a figure in her overalls, wide-brimmed hat, etc. As for Mr. Butcher, he and his son, Joe, expect to do a bit of riding this Spring and Summer, meanwhile keeping the steeds in Green's barn.

gleaned first-hand in that way. Best of luck to you.

TWO STRANGERS

They were strangers to Hopewell, but seeing activity in the basement of Calvary Baptist Church at meal-time, they concluded that a church supper must be in progress. It was--although as a part of the Quarterly Business meeting, and not a paid affair.

However, they were invited to stay and they accepted. They seeme to feel quite at home (Hopewell Baptists are noted for that, you know) and entered into the spirit of the occasion. They explained that they were hoping to locate in this area and a lot of good advice was given them during the meal. At the same time, they were told that the price of the meal would be "to wash the dishes." However, when the plate was passed to raise the cost of rolls, coffee, etc. (it being a covered-dish supper) Mr. Cook (of Connecticut) tried to compel the acceptance of his money, laughing heartily as he added: "I'm trying to buy my way out of washing those dishes."

And the next day, when he talked with Mr. Dilts about real estate in Hopewell and vicinity, Mr. Cook said "The Baptists here in Hopewell are certainly fine folks!"

BUSINESS SESSION

The Quarterly Business meeting proved to be a night when Fred Sutphen blushed from ear to ear. The session was conducted, incidentally by Edward Jones, chairman of the Board of Deacons, since the church is without a pastor. Walter Housel led the devotional period.

But it was during the discussion of procedure about hearing pulpit candidates that Fred Sutphen found himself "on the spot." Some of the available men had been discussed, along with mention of their wives. In the latter respect, it was added that the information about the pastors' wives was being added, inasmuch as Fred Sutphen usually asked "What kind of a wife does he have?" each time a new possibility was mentioned. It was further explained that Mr. Sutphen felt that a capable wife had come to be accepted as a necessary asset for any man who came to Hopewell.

The discussion turned to the cost of bringing a candidate from Western Pennsylvania. Sutphen arose to ask "What do some of the women think about bringing his wife along?" Of course, he was thinking of the expense item. Someone immediately spoke up and asked: "What does Fred Sutphen think--does he want to see her?" Mr. Sutphen stood there and did he blush! He struggled for words but they didn't seem to come. As the laughter died down, he suddenly said: "Yes, I would like to see her!" She was invited.

FORMER PASTOR VISITS TOWN

Rev. N. Vance Johnston popped up in town unexpectedly--to get his income tax report in shape chiefly. However, he made a few hurried calls, meanwhile apologizing because he couldn't do a more thorough job along that line. He likes Vineland quite well, finding the people cordial, three choirs in his church--but with the usual church problems. For his son, David, the school is right across the street. In the church, David is now in the children's choir. When told that they had asked that he sing with the group, David said "Why?" And when he came home from the first practice, he said: "That choir's a mess--they give me a book but I couldn't read it." However, the youngsters wear robes and make quite an impression--even if some of them do hold their books upside down.

Since that look-in at Hopewell, Pastor Johnston has been down to Alabama, to see his youngest brother, Fred, home on furlough before leaving, in all likelihood, for a trip across.

A Sunday Is

Sunday is a different day
 From other days: A time one may
 Consider what the mind and hand
 Have wrought; and try to understand
 Wherein the deed and dream are not
 As closely knit as one had thought.
 An interlude for friends and song
 And laughter. Thus, the spirit strong--
 The star recoupled with the wagon--
 Once more aspires to slay the dragon.
 This emphasis upon the heart
 Marks Sunday as a day apart. (Amanda Brooks)

GRANGE DEDICATES HONOR ROLL

They are quite a patriotic program the other night in the Grange Hall. An Honor Roll with 26 names on it--and more to be added--was unveiled, with Mrs. Fred VanLiew having the honor of assisting in drawing back the American flags that had concealed it. She was chosen having three boys in the service. With five smaller flags in a bracket above the wall plaque, and an open Bible beneath it, the honor Roll was quite impressive.

Naturally, a lot of "speakin'" went with the ceremonies. Herb Voorhees, Master of the Grange, held forth, and his Father and Isaac Lipman also did some "speechifying." After Herb Voorhees--arriving late--explained that he had driven from Trenton in just 17 minutes, Lipman said he heard that Voorhees was stopped once by a cop and as he pulled to a halt, Voorhees asked: "What's the trouble--was I speeding?" To that, the cop replied: "No, not speeding, but flying to low!"

ROLE FREEZING UNITS GROW POPULAR

Claude Emmons is getting a reputation as a super-salesman for freezing units for home use--actually re-conditioned ice cream cabinets. He installed one of his own and liked it so much that he's always lauding the idea. On his advice, several others are giving serious thought to the idea, and two or three others purchased. Newell Holcombe, according to reports, is installing a 12-unit cabinet, and is going to lease space to a couple of others. By the quick-freeze method, fruits, vegetables, meat, etc. can be stowed away for use when wanted.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Earl Zirkler, husband of Marian Laning Zirkler, arrived in town last week, on furlough after recuperation from injuries suffered in action in Italy last August. He wasn't at all talkative about his experiences, saying that while he was overseas it didn't seem so bad but far away from the fighting front, it wasn't pleasant to think about. For a short time before heading for Hopewell, he was in Virginia.

Robert Hill, F 1/c, probably is really at sea now, after being reported in the last issue of the "News" as doing same. As a matter of fact, he was on a run for a few days but not aboard the ship to which he is permanently assigned. The latter was commissioned in Brooklyn last Saturday and his wife, Ina Conover Hill, and her brother, Delbert, were among the guests aboard ship for the ceremonies. It is understood that he's to be aboard an attack transport, carrying troops and landing barges. On the first short trip to sea, Bob worked regular tricks with the crew, being assigned to the refrigerating plant.

It rarely happens but three fellows in uniform were on hand at the recent Quarterly Business meeting of the church. They were Erwin Benson, wearing his paratrooper outfit; Harold VanLiew, in Navy blue, and Fred VanLiew, in khaki, and glad to see his brother after a lapse of several months.....Dennis VanLiew, over in England, wrote that cookies and candy were scarce, and asked his wife, Elsie Hill VanLiew, to see what could be done about sending a supply. He also said he had a chance to see a movie, but it was an old one, "Forever and a Day." As for Army life, the fuel allowance only permits fire for half a day. Speaking of Erwin Benson, he is now at Camp MacCall, N. C. and expects to be there for several weeks of additional training. His brother, Graham, has moved to Memphis, Tenn.

Bruce Gray, of the 65th General Hospital, is now APO 137, c/o Postmaster, N.Y. His outfit has moved about six miles--in England--and Bruce is now at a Summer resort location. He finds it quite an improvement but still doesn't like the weather that compels wearing of galoshes and raincoat most of the time....Bill Wyckoff, somewhere in the Mediterranean area, regrets that he cannot send much actual news, explaining that "It will have to wait till I can see you and tell you personally, but I will say this, we're making it mighty warm for those Jerries.".....Ernie Blackwell, at Camp McCain, Miss., has moved up and is now a Sergeant. Nice going! he had been serving, however, as a squad leader previously. It will take a lot of talking for anyone to convince him that the Infantry isn't the branch of the service that wins the wars. He's been firing on the infiltration course, where men crawl under machine gun fire right over their heads. Ernie says it's a pleasant change "from the long marches and dull classes we have been having."

Gleaned first-hand in that way. Best of luck to you.

Pfc. Charles "Reg" Hurley, far out there in Honolulu, had the odd experience of hearing on the radio that "New York and vicinity expects at least two inches of snow." That was on Feb. 12th, and "Reg" commented: "It sure sounds good out here in the hot weather but I don't think I would like it too much if I were there. On second thought, I guess I would at that."

"You folks back there are hearing a lot of talk about us boys that have been overseas for 18 months or more coming home on a furlough," his letter continues. "Now I'll tell one. I'm no nearer home and will not be than I was 20 months ago. It seems as tho it does not cover this theatre of operations. I guess we are the 'lost army.' It makes me feel a little low but the sorer we get, the better soldiers we will make, so they say."

"No news that I can write. I have done nothing of interest except fish and swim a little. Still working hard and I mean hard but I'm in the best of health."

And from Pvt. Harry "Hap" Erickson comes word that from the windows of his barracks at Camp Cooke, California, he can look at the Pacific Ocean. However, blackout restrictions are in effect only upon occasions. In fact, the blackout paint has been removed from the barracks' windows. "Hap" goes on to say: "Camp is as nice as any I have been in. Felling fine. Chow has improved about 500% over the desert. (where he was on manuevres). I don't know how long we will be here. Rumors, at present, are dormant. Enroute here, we passed through the most beautiful citrus groves. We did have a short halt of which everyone took advantage. The fruit was a little green but tasted swell."

Just the other day, Dr. "Reg" Pierson's photo appeared in the Trenton Times with an item stating that he had been promoted from Major to Lieut. Colonel--and the Times showed him wearing a cap with Captain's bars on it! He's at Fort Warren, Wyoming, as chief of the medical staff.....Mel Servis recently had a three-day stop-over in Bermuda while returning from another trans-Atlantic hop. A little engine trouble was to blame, and while repair parts were being flown out from New York, he did a bit of yachting and enjoyed the Bermuda sunshine..Bill Johnson leaves this Friday for a hitch at Army life.

DOINGS IN THE CHURCH

The Carpet Committee is still waiting for the new carpet to be laid in Calvary Baptist Church. The promise made in December by the Trenton store where it was purchased to the effect that it could be put down whenever the church was ready seems to have been forgotten. However, workmen are plenty scarce these days....Heater rooms in the basement have been lined with sheet-rock as an added safeguard....The coal-bins are still pretty low and activities during the week are almost exclusively held in homes to further the saving of fuel....Over in the parsonage, Harry Hullfish has been re-decorating the woodwork in white paint--so it will be ready for the day when a new pastor and his family are ready to move in....In the choir, Claire Morrell is wearing a diamond and her intended, who is the son of her former Spanish teacher in High School, was in church last Sunday, in Army uniform.Mrs. Leigh Hurley has joined the choir and her soprano voice is a welcome addition....Two visiting preachers read the same Scripture on successive Sundays in our pulpit, "As panteth the hart after the water brook, So panteth my soul after Thee, O God."

The church kitchen is on the way to vast improvements. Walter Housel has built a new kitchen closet and the kitchen is to be repainted throughout....."Pat" Lake, who is taking care of the fires, found that one of his "volunteer assistants" opened up the drafts early one evening, thinking that "Pat" would be in later, causing the discovery the next morning that the fire had to be re-built....The church bulletin board carries a "Thought for the Week" now, the present one reading: "Some wish they could, but no man disbelieves."

At the Presbyterian Church, new front doors have been installed. Also in the basement, a new partition has been erected to enlarge one of the departments. The hammering on both jobs went blithely on while women from all the churches were conducting a "World Day of Prayer" service about 10 days ago.

NEWS AROUND IO/IN

H. A. Rockwell has been named as president at "H.A.'s", moving up from his position as vice-president and general manager.....Andy Tyckoff had a sale of farm and household goods, deciding he didn't want to continue going it alone. It's said he plans to rent the house....In the stores, the shoppers are trying to get used to taking dime-size tokens as "change" from ration coupons, when the latter exceed the required point-value of goods bought.....New license plates have appeared on quite a number of cars, having a cream-colored background black figures. Only one plate is issued and it goes on the back of the car--metal saving, you know.....

Ronald Titus, 12, is going to remember the day that he walked through a sheep-pen at Wagner's, on Crusher Road. For quite unexpected, a ram came up behind him and shoved him into another young lad who was walking just ahead. The boys, who had gone there with Orville Carkhuff to see some young lambs, wasted no time in getting out of the sheep-pen.....Young Jordan Bodine is in the hospital, having undergone an appendix operation:....In the Grammar School, the lunchroom found a way to dispose of over 1,800 half-pints of milk during the month of February alone....

Remember Ira Blackwell's windwheels on his front lawn? They still whirl around--and squeak!.....They tell a story about Dr. Jurgi, supply pastor at the Presbyterian Church, who in greeting a man who attended the union Thanksgiving service in November, said: "I don't believe I've seen you out to church before." To that, the man thus accosted, replied: "No, I guess not." Dr. Jurgi went a step further, asking, "May I inquire your name?" "Yes, I am Russell Riley!" was the reply, by the man who is one of the most active workers in Calvary Baptist Church.

Onion sets are scarce and selling at 39 cents a pound.....A big batch of kittens--two batches, in fact--are expected momentarily at Moore's store:....Herb Rorer has several rolls of snow-fence sitting out on his store sidewalk. It's been a Winter with no heavy snow--as yet--and it looks as if he overstocked, or guessed wrong.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Here's a true story, up from North Carolina. A young man entered a florist shop and ordered two dozen roses to be sent to his fiancee on the occasion of her 24th birthday. On the card he wrote: "One for each precious year of your life."

After he left the shop, the proprietor who had not seen the card, said to the clerk who had taken the order: "He's a good customer of ours--throw in an extra dozen."

To date, the wedding has been postponed.

Watchful waiting was always General McClellan's policy during the Civil War. Lincoln finally got so impatient with him that he dispatched to him this note: "My dear McClellan, if you don't want to use the Army, I should like to borrow it for a while."

Two soldiers had just enjoyed a large fruit cake from home, when suddenly one began to groan, doubling himself up and straightening himself out again. "What's the matter, Hank?" his buddy asked. The sufferer groaned: "That cake I ate, I think my Ma forgot to shell the guts in it." His buddy looked surprised and replied: "Lordy, and can you crack 'em by just bending?"

IN CLOSING

This looks like the signing-off place. Or as somebody once said: "All's well that ends."

If this letter has made you feel as if you were almost back in Hopewell for 20 minutes or half an hour, it's served its purpose. And after all, there's no real separation, when you realize that a lot of your friends back here are radiating friendly thoughts about you, and praying for your safety and early return.

Those of us back home may never know to any extent what your service has involved, but there's a keen appreciation that's not easily put into words. Carry on--and the best of luck to you always.

Sincerely,

97 W. Broad St. Hopewell, N.J.

DEAN H. ASHTON

H O P E W E L L N E W S

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

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19th Issue

CHURCH CALLS A PASTOR

By unanimous vote, Calvary Baptist Church extended a call to Raymond A. Gray, of McPherson, Kansas, at a congregational meeting following yesterday's morning service. He preached here in Hopewell on the previous Sunday and made a very favorable impression.

Mr. Gray will graduate from the Andover-Newton Theological School, at Newton Centre, Mass., just outside Boston, around the end of May. He is 25 years old, married, and previously graduated from Ottawa University, Kansas. For nearly three years, while a student, he has been acting as pastor of two rural churches in New Hampshire. Also, he previously was an assistant pastor at the Lexington, Mass. Baptist Church. As a matter of fact, his previous experience was quite apparent as soon as he began his sermon here, for he spoke with such eloquence and the right amount of self-assurance as to leave no doubt about his acceptability.

In all likelihood, there will be a few days of anxiety until definite word comes from Mr. Gray as to whether he will accept the call. He indicated that he liked Hopewell, found the congregation very cordial and would give careful thought to any developments. However, he made it known that he and his wife had not settled definitely in their minds as to whether they should return to the mid-West to do their work or locate elsewhere. One point in favor of Hopewell, however, is the fact that he had given some thought about locating in New England. His own comment, however, was that he would go where he felt he was being sent by the Divine Planner.

Mr. Gray has been driving 70 miles each Sunday to his New Hampshire churches, teaching two Men's Bible Classes, preaching two sermons, doing some calling and then driving home--ready to resume his studies. While his wife obeyed her doctor's orders and did not come to Hopewell, Mr. Gray said "She is a wonderful girl" and made friends readily. Mr. Gray also is quite a singer, and at one of his present churches, plays the church organ also.

If he accepts the call--and the church congregation feels that any lingering doubt would be removed if he knew all the fine things that had been said in his favor--it may be early June before he is available. With graduation, completion of his New Hampshire work and plans to move, it looks like a busy schedule for the Grays. However, the church parsonage is ready, and the church will rejoice if they do agree to be the next occupants at 1 East Broad Street.

And as for the fellows in the service, it's a sure thing that Mr. Gray will be deeply interested in them, for only a few days before he visited Hopewell, a younger brother had dropped in to see him most unexpectedly; just before going across as a pilot in the Army Air Corps. Incidentally, Mr. Gray is one of six children, and his parents are living out there in Kansas--the State that grows so much wheat.

THE EDITOR CHATS

I'll have to tell you a little story about a woman who came to the house a short time ago, inquiring whether she could obtain the "Hopewell News." She explained that she wanted to send it to a relative who is in the South Pacific. Then she added: "Why, this paper has been going on for a year and I didn't know about it! That's just awful!" That sort of comment really helps a lot. Likewise, there has been a fine crop of appreciative letters from the fellows in the service. Taking time out of your crowded life to say "Keep it coming" represents a friendly gesture that is heart-warming. So the "News" will continue to "go to press" about every three weeks. The cost of this issue underwritten by these good friends of yours and mine--Harry E. Sutphen, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Paul and Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Morrell.

PLENTY OF MUMPS

Almost everybody in town is talking about the mumps at present. The two most popular questions are "Did you ever have them?" and "Do you think you'll catch 'em?" The reason for it all is the existence of about a dozen cases, chiefly among students who ride one of the buses that goes daily to Princeton High School. Mumps--what a down-in-the-dumps name to give what is described as "a specific infectious febrile disease characterized by a non-suppurative inflammation of the parotid and sometimes other salivary glands." Get it? Yep, the disease that does things to our glands.

Johnny Cromwell was among the first to "come down" with mumps. Since he belongs to the Presbyterian choir, that group sent him a basket of fruit--to which George Adams added a bottle of pickles. John recovered and then both his Father and Mother developed the same ailment. That meant that Johnny had to handle his Father's milkroute, keep house and attend school. Also, several Grammar School teachers who had been taking their meals at Cromwells had to make other arrangements for the time being.

Another victim was Bill Bodine, who made the mistake of sitting on John Cromwell's lap while they were coming home from a basketball game, just before the latter developed the disease. Others who have the mumps now in one stage or another include Beryl Agin, Jack Ginter, Glenn Agin, Mary Maier, Bill Ashton, David Laird, Marian VanDyke, Betty Fancoast and Bob Davis. Jack Ginter, for instance, went to tryouts in Trenton for the All-State High School Band and before the practice was over, his neck was nicely swollen--and it wasn't from blowing too hard on his clarinet, either. Incidentally, he "made" the band.

EASTER ATTIRE

The interior of Calvary Baptist Church is vastly improved in appearance. The auditorium, with its new carpet and re-finished floors, is rivaled by the basement, where the floor has been re-painted with a khaki-colored paint that helps tremendously. Even the entrances have had the same treatment--and the kitchen! That is so clean looking with its white-painted walls, re-enameled stoves, etc. that it looks like a model kitchen. And the Primary room has been re-decorated with light paint and blue trim until all stand back and admire. With the parsonage re-papered and re-painted, ready for the new minister, the church really has been doing things.

EASTER OBSERVANCE

Special programs for the Easter season have been arranged by the three cooperating churches, with a Union Communion service in the Methodist church Thursday night; a song-and-gospel service in the Baptist Church, with Dr. Jurgi, stated supply of the Presbyterian Church in charge Friday; Easter sunrise service in the latter church Sunday morning, and all joining in a union service in the Methodist Church Sunday night. There will be united choirs at the services, and it is expected that the Young People will be given a special part in the Friday night "Easter sing" and gospel program.

IRA BLACKWELL SETS HIS BEAN POLES

For a week or more, Ira Blackwell has had his bean poles set and who knows--maybe he's planted his lima beans by this time. Most gardeners are still thumbing through their seed catalogues or at best, planting their early peas. Ira's peas? Oh, they've been planted since March 15th, one day after he dug his garden up. What if it did snow five days later until the ground was covered four inches deep. "Keeps the peas nice and warm," Ira remarked. He usually comes through with a good crop and that's the best answer to any argument as to whether he plants them too early. But the dogs in the neighborhood are giving him endless trouble, tearing across his ploughed ground and he is determined that Borough officials do something about it.

TIMELY THOUGHTS FROM THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

The custom of putting a timely thought on the church bulletin board each week has been revived. Here are a few recent ones:

"Some wish they could, but no man disbelieves."

"Christianity ruined emperors, but saved people."

"Time misspent is not lived but lost."

"I am the door; by me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved."

DR. GREEN TEACHES AT 83

You've heard Dr. Francis Green, of Pennington School, give one of his whirlwind speeches or sermons, for which he is famous--no doubt. He retired last year as school head. Recently, the School lost its English instructor. So Dr. Green, 83 years young, filled the gap, teaching classes for three weeks. And as the students say, "He's good!" Furthermore, he has the knack of getting the boys to do their homework. As one of the students said later, "All he had to say was 'Is your work properly prepared--is your conscience clear?' and you couldn't tell a lie to a man like that!"

SEEKING SEAT IN LEGISLATURE

Joe Pierson, who works in the bank, serves as Borough Clerk, issues dog licenses, etc., is running for Assembly. Right now, it looks as if he will run unopposed in the Republican Primary, and that's always a break. Before November rolls around, Joe will have a lot of hand-shaking to do, meetings to attend--and lose a lot of sleep.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION AROUND POST OFFICE

Cars around the Post Office are so numerous late afternoons and on Saturday mornings that a traffic officer could be used to advantage. On a recent Saturday, one mishap caused damage to three cars. As Charlie Williamson pulled from the curb, another auto came along and Williamson's car was shoved ahead into Russell Riley's auto. The outside car lost a fender, Williamson's auto was somewhat damaged and Mr. Riley needed a new exhaust pipe. Volunteers unhooked the bumpers. "It's the first time I've ever been in an accident," Williamson remarked. While speed wasn't a factor in that accident, lots of folks think some way should be found to slow down some of the fast boys who hit it up through town.

A more serious crackup occurred last Sunday night on Louellen Street by the Presbyterian Church. One car, apparently taking a wide swing from Broad Street into Louellen, hit another auto with considerable force. The crash was heard a block or more away and five people were hurt, one High Bridge woman being taken to the hospital. And then one of the cars was left right in the middle of the street for the entire night--but good luck saved others from crashing into it. It was towed away the next morning.

SCHOOL GIVES A SHOW

To boost the sale of War Bonds, the Grammar School gave a program the other night. Quite a crowd attended and the sale of stamps boosted the school's sales to \$17,500 during the school year, compared to a total of \$4,500 for all of last year. The program included an original play by Lois Righter, with Kenneth Paul directing the fifth grade pupils who took part; a seventh grade program about the history of rubber; an operetta by the smaller children and songs by upper grade girls. To wind it up, a play in which the famous picture "Spirit of '75" (Remember--soldier playing a fife, a drummer boy and a man carrying the flag) was transformed into "Spirit of '44." Midway in the show, Mr. Wilgus made a brief speech, remarked that it was the "seventh inning stretch and anybody who wants is free to indulge," whereupon one fellow stood up and took a healthy stretch!

WRITES A CLEVER AD

Getting ready to move to Reading, Pa., Glenn H. Cox, of West Broad Street, wrote a clever ad that appeared in the Reading papers. Being an advertising man, he knew just how to do it. It started off: "My problem, Mr. Anthony, is this--where can I find a suitable home in Reading?" Despite the scarcity of houses, he received a flock of answers. One woman started her letter thus "I presume you are a member of the Caucasian race." Another had a home to rent for \$225 a month in the Summer and \$275 in the Winter. Mr. Cox will be connected with an advertising agency in his new location. He had served on the Gasoline panel of the Pennington Ration Board, later with a "Plant Gasoline" panel in Trenton.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A woman said to her husband, "Pretty nice nurse we have for Junior." He replied: "Yes, pretty."
"I said she was pretty nice," his wife corrected. Still reading his paper, he replied: "Yes pretty."
Then his wife added: "She won't let anybody kiss Junior when she's around."
"Who wants to?" was the husband's answer.

SELLS HIS AIRPLANE

Did you know that Lester LaRue had an airplane stored in his garage on West Prospect Street? "Had" is the word for he'sold it recently and the buyer flew it away. In fact, it hovered low over the school because the take-off was from the snow-covered field adjoining the end of Prospect Street. It seems that LaRue had owned it for three years or so, but under wartime restrictions, it wasn't being used, although he warmed up the engine about once a week, it is reported. When the sale was negotiated, the purchaser came with a mechanic, who assembled the blue-and-yellow ship and gave it a tryout. Then it was flown away and Hopewell lost its only airplane.

However, the town is very air-minded these days, even getting a lot of air-wave publicity. Drew Pearson's radio story made it appear that the H.A. Smith plant was turning out parachutes for the Army, while actually their work is the manufacture of a new type of Ring Release.

SOLDIER VOTING

There's been a great stir in Congress and out about giving servicemen a chance to vote this Fall. The problem was to adjust Federal plans with State laws. As it looks now, New Jersey fellows will get a State ballot, supplemented by a Federal ballot. Right now, a canvass is being made in New Jersey by the house-to-house method to round up all military addresses of men in the service. Then the official lists will be prepared by the Adjutant General's office. The ballots are to be mailed out so that at least 45 days will be available for them to reach those most distant from home, and to be returned. It's a valuable privilege but it may be no cinch for a fellow far from home to pick his candidates, about most of them knowing very little, perhaps.

WISE DUCKS

Spencer Moore has been having a "duck hunt", trying to retrieve a pair of ducks that flew out of his barn after he had bought them to fill customers' orders. The ducks are the kind that can fly well, and apparently they took advantage of an opening near the roof of the barn. On the first day, one disappeared and it was seen at various places in town, including Dr. Pierson's front lawn, before it was recaptured. The next day, however, two of three ducks were gone again and at last reports, one of the pair still was at liberty. What's that old saying-- "A bird in hand is worth two in the bush"--and nobody knows that better right now than Spencer Moore.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Three stories about Hopewell fellows meeting others from "the old home town" in far away places have drifted back in the last few days. Sgt. Bruce H. Cray, who is in England, was busy with his job in the hospital office to which he is assigned, when a fellow came up and said "Aren't you Bruce Cray?" Bruce found he was talking to Homer Lering, who is a Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Corps. Lering has a mustache and looks fine, Bruce reported. At the same time, Bruce heard Homer's account of his late experience and said it was "Quite an event," although he couldn't give any details. Bruce also reported feeling fine, and as for some elderberry jelly that his folks sent over, it lasted just two days, he said, but "It sure did taste good."

Another chance meeting occurred in Hawaii, where it is understood that Parvin Stryker, Jr. met up with Ed Sheppard, of the U.S. Marines. Ed had been moved to his outfit to a rest camp after being in the thick of one of the important island invasions. Incidentally, Bob VanDoren, also of the Marines, is said to be on one of the captured islands, remaining there with occupation forces after seizure of the island.

The third "meet-up" occurred in Italy while Bill Wyckoff SM 3/c in the Navy, was on liberty. Writing on March 21, Bill said: "Two days ago I ran into none other than Charles Brogenzer! I can't describe how happy I was. He was the first fellow I have met from our home town so far. His Mother will be nappy to learn that the rumor of possible amputation of his feet is truly false. I was talking to him and he said there ad been a possibility of amputation of a couple of frozen toes, but everything cleared up and he is well and in the best of health. We chatted for a while about home and all, and I asked him how he liked it here. He looked up at me and smiled, then said: "It's not so bad." Of course, we all prefer home, but we're in good spirits so you know with a spirit like that, we are bound to win."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Pvt. Paul Stryker has run into a bit of misfortune again, being in the hospital at Santa Barbara, California. It seems that a jaw infection developed and they've been doing some work on him. The outlook was that he might be in the hospital for a couple of months and there had been some thought about releasing him from active duty. His address is Jefferson School, Hoff General Hospital, Santa Barbara. His wife is with her sister at Morristown these days.

Bob Hill, Fl/c, made another flying trip home this past week, perhaps his last for a while. He arrived at 5.30 A.M. from Norfolk and returned the next day. His ship was expected to be in complete readiness within a few days. Some of his buddies had a notion that they will head for the Pacific.....Tom McCandless, stationed at Abilene, Texas, has been home on leave. He appears to be in great shape. Coming home, he rode two days and two nights, getting in Saturday night, and Mrs. McCandless just couldn't get him awake the next morning. Then Harold VanLiew, A.O.M 3/c in the Navy, appeared, being home that week-end and eager for a chance to talk with his old pal. He went to Tom's bedroom and before long, they came downstairs together and then came to church for the 11 o'clock Morning Worship.

Vernon Temple, who is now MM 3/c in the Navy, is believed to have been in New Guinea but apparently his ship is on the move most of the time. He V-mailed that "Mail service is going from bad to worse and only V-mail gets through in half good time." He added that the "Hopewell News" reaches him somewhat late, but added that "It is still news to me. He added that "I think of old times and I go back to the church, the choir, even Sunday School and the orchestra. It all seems so far in the past and yet such good memories."

Arch Litzen, A.M.M. 2/c, writing from aboard the U.S.S. Bataan, its whereabouts unstated, of course, says that "everything here is as well as can be expected." He said that the ship behaved nicely in its shake-down cruise. Even at sea, the "News" reached him regularly, he added.....Pfc. George Everitt continues doing his job with the Military Police at Phoenix Arizona, the German prisoner camp where one of the Nazis was found hanged recently. Newspaper accounts hinted that fellow prisoners had been involved, but that a row had preceded the final act. Two escape plots also had been frustrated out there. The papers describe the camp as containing about 900 Germans who were sent there after Italian prisoners were transferred elsewhere last Fall. The Mexican border is 125 miles to the south. The camp is on the desert, surrounded by sandstone hills covered with scrub cactus, and the buildings are of the barracks type.

Kenneth Hullfish went into the Navy recently and is now at the Great Lakes Training Station. He is in the Ship Repair Service and seemed to think that the work would be interesting, once "boot" training is completed.....Edward Haynes, Jr., of Skillman, expects to leave in a few days to begin service.

A/C Harold Temple is really covering the South, now hopping from Montgomery, Alabama, to Turner Field, Albany, Georgia. He's had primary and basic flying training, with night-flying, etc. included. His new location is a twin-engine field, down in the pecan country.

Jack VanLieu is now at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, being one of the 32,000 lifted out of their college training courses while in the Air Corps, in order to build up Infantry personnel. It was a tough break for Jack, although the college work lasting for several months gave him a good start for post-war days. He is now in the 42nd "Rainbow" Division, and his group has about seven weeks to catch up to the rest of the Division who have been training for seven months.....Heard the other day that Burke Kirby, with the Fifth Army in Italy, has been figuring in the push toward Rome, and at one writing had been out with engineers for 12 days doing a job.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

When the Spring thaw came a short while back, the golf course at the Hopewell Valley Golf Club was largely under water. The brook just couldn't carry it off fast enough....Bob Copner was ill for several days with food poisoning....Men of the Presbyterian Church cooked and served a pancake-sausage supper recently but apparently there was not special need for bicarbonate of soda, at that....Chaplain Ginter is expected home for Easter, and 'tis said that his family may go to Colorado this Summer to be with him at his Army Air Corps station....The kittens arrived at Moore's grocery store, eight in number since one died...One of the mother cats thought she would keep them in Mrs. Moore's sewing basket but was mistaken.

NEWS AROUND TOWN (continued)

Adele Hurley and her horse are going to part company. The animal has become rather fractious.....Saw an interesting thing at the railroad station the other morning. The 7.30 "dinkey" took on its passengers and started East. Just as it got under way, a fair darsel came dashing around the end of the station. The man at the throttle or the conductor saw her and the train was brought to a standstill. The car was close to the freight-loading platform. Out stepped the conductor, took the girl's pocketbook, her hand and gently aided her across the wide space between the platform and the doorway. Then the train started off again, chugging merrily as if well-satisfied to see such a display of gentlemanly courtesy so early in the morning.

OWN THE LIGHTER SIDE

Here's a notice that is said to have appeared on a church bulletin board--but not in Hopewell--

Evening Subject
"What Is Hell Like?"
Come and Hear Our Organist!

A woman opened her electric refrigerator and there sitting inside it was the little gray wabbit. Surprised, she asked: "What are you doing here?"

The little gray wabbit looked at her and then asked in turn: "Isn't this a Westinghouse?" The lady replied: "Yes, it is." Whereupon the little gray wabbit said: "Well, I'm just westing!"

What a man doesn't know never hurts him. But we often get tired of listening to it.

A good executive is one who makes an immediate decision and is sometimes right.

A meteorologist is a man who can look into a girl's eyes and tell weather.

Love is swell,
It's so enticing.
It's orange peel,
It's strawberry Icing.
It's Charlotte russe,
It's roasted goose;
It's ham on rye,
It's banana pie.
Love's all good things,
Without a question.
In other words--
It's indigestion!

IN CLOSING

I only wish I had some way of checking up as to the number of people who will read this edition of the "News." Also, it would be interesting to know of the places and surroundings where it is being read. Of course, it is mailed out directly to many distant points but my understanding is that many of the copies delivered to friends in Hopewell are sent on to those in the service. If you are one of those, a letter telling a bit about yourself would be appreciated and enable a lot of others to have some word about you. Letters to the address below are always welcome.

To everyone, wherever you may be, best of luck to you. The "home front" is grateful for the way the job's being done; hopeful that it will not be too long before all are safely home again, and anxious that you bring with you the same determination to make your town, your country, your church even better through your energy and active interest.

Sincerely,

97 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, N. J.

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL NEWS

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II, No. 6 Hopewell, N. J., April 24, 1944

20th Issue

BUSY DAYS FOR PASTOR-ELECT

While the congregation of Calvary Baptist Church looks ahead with eager anticipation to June 1st when Raymond A. Gray, newly chosen pastor, begins his work in Hopewell, Mr. Gray himself is trying to weather an extremely heavy schedule for the intervening weeks. As a student pastor with two churches at South Lyndeboro and Wilton, New Hampshire; his Senior year in the Andover-Newton Theological School to complete, and the usual round of graduation activities--not to overlook preparations for moving with his wife and other choice possessions--Mr. Gray might safely be termed a busy man. But he left the impression during his first short stay in Hopewell, when he occupied the pulpit, that he thrives on activity.

It is expected that he will move here on May 31st, only two days after his graduation. He submitted his resignation in New Hampshire, effective May 14th. Before that date, however, his Ordination Service will be held there in New Hampshire. Some folks there who had enjoyed his preaching for almost three years were eager to witness the commissioning of Mr. Gray for the ministry and he felt that it was the least he could do at his leaving. Meanwhile, there is packing-up to be done there, inasmuch as Mr. and Mrs. Gray occupied the parsonage there over week-ends, except during the winter season. On Sunday, May 31st, Mr. Gray will be free--the second Sunday in almost four years that he hasn't preached! Then on May 28th, the Seminary has its Baccalaureate Services for the graduating class, with graduation the following day. It is located at Newton Centre, just outside Boston.

In regard to the work in Hopewell, Mr. Gray has said that he and Mrs. Gray are eager to "plow in." He added that "My only hope is that with constant work I may grow into the type of minister that is needed in Hopewell," also commenting that "Both Mrs. Gray and I are very happy now that we have made our decision, and we are looking forward to some fine experiences with some wonderful people."

ITTY THE SCHOOL-BUS DRIVER

It's a tough life, being the driver of a school bus. Nobody knows that better than Calvin Hill, of the Woodville Road, who is recuperating from the mumps! And if that isn't bad enough, just recall that last year he had to have a spell with the measles.

Before Easter, when the mumps really was beginning to get spread around quite generally, Cal was bringing them home sick most every afternoon! He suspected all along that he was due to get them and he guessed right. To complicate things, his wife was down in Baltimore, where there was illness in their daughter's family, but she speedily returned.

But that's not all of it. For a night or so before Cal became ill, the Finance Committee of Calvary Church met at his home. Cal remarked that he wasn't feeling too good and asked "Does anybody know how you feel when you are getting the mumps?" That didn't break up the meeting but the developments have caused a few anxious moments for some of those present.

For a while, the cases in town seemed to concentrate among the students attending Princeton High. However, Grammar School pupils also have been having a turn at it. A few adults also have been victims.

ORVILLE HOLCOMBE IN CHINA

Hopewell fellows continue to report from all sorts of far-distant places. J. Orville Holcombe, son of Mrs. Charles Holcombe, of Columbia Avenue, is somewhere in China. Previously he was in India for a month or so. He's working out as a radio mechanic in the Army Corps, but about all that is known concerning his exact location is that he is in a high altitude (try to locate that on the map).

NOT ABOUT HUMPS

Tom McCordless enjoyed his visit back home, having a 15-day furlough from the Air Base at Abilene, Texas. After all, he wasn't being called upon for service "Thunderbolts" while he was here in town, although that's part of his Army routine "down there." But back he went and then what happened? In due course, Tom developed the mumps! So they put him in a room off by himself and he's been kept there so the rest of the Army wouldn't develop the same malady.

CHASING THE DUCK

Spencer Moore, the grocer, has lost 20 pounds in weight--but it didn't come about through chasing those ducks that flew out of the barn shortly before they were needed to fill store orders. He's been dieting on the doctor's advice, and doing a good job of it.

When the last issue of the "News" went to press, it was mentioned that one of the three ducks was still out somewhere seen, the town, although its mate had been recaptured. Finally, the fugitive duck was reported back of Jim Waldron's, near the H.A. Smith factory. Ed Vansant, who had sold the ducks to Moore's Store, went after the duck but on his first trip he returned empty-handed. So he got his revolver, figuring that if the duck took advantage of the water nearby, it might develop into quite a chase. When he returned this time, however, Vansant was carrying the duck. With good aim, he had sent a bullet neatly through the duck's neck. But meanwhile, the customer who didn't want to wait to see how the duck hunt turned out, had decided to eat chicken that week-end!

ANDY WYCKOFF TAKES IT WITH A GRIN

Andy Wyckoff had some bad luck when his right hand tangled up with a circular saw up at Andrew Hausenbauer's place. It didn't look at the outset as if there was much chance of saving four fingers, for the saw-teeth really had done the business. However, he was rushed to the hospital in Trenton and Dr. A. James Fessler, of the McKinley staff, went to work. Latest reports indicate that the fingers apparently have been saved, by another one of those miracles of medical skill. Andy's thumb also had been nipped and a transfusion was necessary, along with anti-lockjaw serum. But in no time at all, Andy was feeling pretty good again. His other hand, of course, has never been very useful since he was crippled by illness during childhood. But Andy hasn't let it change his attitude toward life. "Why should I complain?" he asked when friends visited him, and went on to say: "Maybe it was my good hand but look at that fellow there across the hall--he's been here since November and he's far worse off than I am--and there's a man nearby who has been in the hospital for two years and is getting worse."

Since he rented out the former Dalrymple property and sold out his goods, Andy has been living at Leon Hill's. He had planned to do some garden-plowing around town and help on nearby farms, but it will be a little while before he can do very much. Even Andy doesn't know just how the accident happened, although most likely the saw hit a spot in the wood and twisted it suddenly, taking Andy's fingers into the danger zone.

DAVID DANBERRY REPORTS FROM ENGLAND

Word comes that Pfc. David Danberry, who possesses a Purple Heart after being wounded in action in the Mediterranean war zone, is now in England. He has been in service over three years, one year of which has been overseas. Right now, his nerves are giving him trouble and it may be that he will be released from the Army, although he expects to be hospitalized for a while longer. He says that England is "very nice country but I will still take America to live in."

LIEUT. GINTER RETURNS TO COLORADO

It was a busy furlough for Chaplain Ginter, Presbyterian pastor now serving in the Army Air Corps at Buckley Field, Colorado, when he came home a few days before Easter. Almost immediately upon arrival, he took over the Palm Sunday service, as the supply pastor, Dr. Jurji, pleaded having a slight cold. After that, Chaplain Ginter sided with union services two nights, then conducted the Easter morning sunrise service. Also, the Ginter family were guests of honor at a covered-dish supper shortly before he had to start back to his Army post.

BIG BARN BURNS

Remember the big barn just before you crossed the railroad bridge going into Pennington, near the T. P. Reed mill? It burned to the ground before daybreak on April 15th, and the owner, William H. Whitecraft, didn't have a cent's worth of insurance. The wagon-shed and house across the road were not set afire; in fact, a milk-shed of concrete blocks and a silo right close to the barn still stand. But the fire was over a week ago, and the ruins are still smoking, probably because there was about \$1,500 worth of fertilizer stored in the barn. Nobody has been able to determine what caused the fire. Five cows, two bulls, two heifers and a bird dog also were lost, along with a quantity of hay. So there will not be any more barn dances there on Saturday nights--for it had been used to some extent for that purpose some time ago.

One story being told about the lack of insurance goes this way: Whitecraft is quoted as saying that "If I had known it was going to burn down, I'd have taken out insurance." And a fireman is said to have replied: "Yes, if we had known it was going to burn down, we would have had the fire engine there, too!" Hopewell firemen responded to the emergency call put in about ten minutes after the blaze in Pennington sounded.

QUICK ACTION TO SAVE TONS OF PAPER

The Boy Scouts had about three tons of newspapers and magazines stored in their building near the Eagle Bakery, the result of their drive to gather in the scarce material. The other day, it was in danger of going up in smoke, for scraps of burning paper, whisked from a trash fire started nearby by Louie Gerhard, set fire to other trash beneath the Scout building. However, Louis Hebner and "Ink" McLaughlin were nearby and extinguished the fire before firemen had arrived.

REPORT ON FORMER PASTOR JOHNSTON

Down Vineland way, N. Vance Johnston reports that his Easter congregation consisted of 280 at the morning service, and about 180 in the evening. Now that he has been there over three months, he is getting into the full swing of things. It's a busy, hustling church with a lot of active workers, a lot of territory for a pastor to cover and a schedule that calls for two sermons every Sunday, right through the Summer months, too.

ENLISTMENT SUNDAY

It may be that some of the fellows in the service may wonder why they weren't told about "Enlistment Sunday" and the usual roundup of contribution pledges. The Finance Committee, of which Marvin Vandewater is chairman, decided that the home folks would look after the needs of the church, when those in military service are living on reduced incomes and doing a job for the preservation of our American way of life--including the defense of our churches and our freedom to worship. So this year you are passed by without even a hint that a pledge would be welcome--but most likely you'd be willing to make a pledge right now for next year, if there was a guarantee with it that you'd be back in home surroundings by that time.

APRIL FOOL PARTY

They had an April Fool party at the Edgar Temples for the LLL class of young ladies the other night. First, they offered gift packages at auction, and Ruth Drake (Lloyd's wife) drew the prize of them all--a box that contained about a dozen soup beans. Another box that went to Mildred Rathousky contained an onion--a real trophy because they are high in price these days. The "April Fool" refreshments included cream-puffs as well as Easter eggs, and two or three of the guests were startled when they found that they were biting into cotton.

HARBOURTON'S "BUFFALO BILL"

Somebody gave the nickname of "Buffalo Bill" to 68-year-old Charles J. Lennox, of Harbourton, because he sits astride his horse with the same alert attitude that he did when he served with the British Lancers during World War I. His long-flowing hair and whiskers and wide-brimmed campaign hat add a Western touch to his appearance. In fact, his startling appearance as he rides along the country roads won for him quite some publicity in one of the Sunday papers recently. The article told how he liked to gallop on his horse, an animal that is smart enough to pick up its feed pail and carry it to the kitchen door when it's time to eat. Lennox was quoted as saying that he keeps fit himself by drinking goat's milk.

(4)
WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

G. Kenneth Hullfish, MM 3/c, who began training at the Great Lakes Training Station in Illinois recently, was back home a few days ago. He's in the Ship Repair Service and considers it quite a break to be sent to the biggest and most modern Naval Training Station in the world. He's been busy though, he admits, but finds the food, the barracks and the bunks to be all right. Attending a church service, he found about 2,000 present with a wonderful choir. His brother, Donald, is the proud owner of five white sailor hats, brought home by Ken and left because he had stenciled them on the wrong side.

Bill Wyckoff and Charlie Bregenzer have met up again over there in Italy. Writing on April 13th (and the letter reached Hope-on the 20th by V-mail service) he said: "Saw ----- (blacked out by the censor) again this week: He is fine. Has a soft job now pushing a pencil. We met in town on liberty, and a buddy of his had a camera and snapped Charlie and I standing in front of a building." The censor must have nodded in his sleep, because if he thought he had a reason to strike out the full name, he lost out by leaving "Charlie" in the letter. Bill added that a previous letter was typewritten because he was able to get to one of several on board his ship.

Here's more Navy news. Ed Haynes, Jr., whose home these days is in Flemington, is taking "boot" at Camp Bainbridge, Md, and will be there until May 8th..... Robert I. Hill, F 1/c, is quite definitely at sea now, as letters haven't come through from him for quite a while, and the thought seems to be that his ship may already be in Pacific waters by this time. In one letter, he wrote "Everything is going swell and have a fine ship." He said that the chaplain aboard ship was well liked and a great help to fellows away from their home church. Bob added that "Of course as things are I can't write of things we are doing or where we are but everything is shipshape!" Another welcome but noncommittal letter comes from Arch Litzen, A.M.M.2/c, who now has a Frisco Fleet Post Office address, which is significant. He's aboard the same ship, but it necessarily goes unnamed henceforth. He finds that the mail service has been "surprisingly efficient." (Not the same ship as Bob Hill, of course.)

Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew is now at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, with the 240th Army Band, attached to a Field Artillery unit. He had been at Lewes, Delaware. Down in the deep South, they've been giving them some tough training, mostly physical. (No, it isn't a Field Artillery unit--it was, but the band is now attached to an Engineers' unit.) He finds the weather to be Summer-like with nights a little cooler, just right for sleeping..... Kenneth R. Burroughs, Aviation Cadet, is now at Carlsbad, New Mexico, getting training in dead-reckoning navigation and high-level bombing. He had been at Kingman, Arizona..... Pfc. George T. Everitt, doing duty at a "P.W." camp near Phoenix, Arizona, expects to be joined by his wife very soon. She has arranged to go to Phoenix by airplane to be with her husband for a while.

Pvt. Paul Stryker, getting along well after a jaw operation and living at a re-conditioning center in Santa Barbara, California, wrote a fine letter "To everybody in the Baptist Sunday School" and when it was read, it was greatly enjoyed. He said he was grateful to all his Hopewell friends who had written to him--and there must have been plenty of letters, for his former pupils have done their share, too. Paul said he liked California's climate, being like New Jersey in the Springtime. "We see the sun every day, except for three months in the year when the sunshine is of a liquid nature," he said. And as for oranges, lemons and grapefruit, they grow and are stolen just like apples "back home." His operation, it seems, involved a cyst that had to be removed, and the doctors told him that a very gentle tap on the jaw at any time during the last five years might have resulted in a broken jaw. That caused Paul to comment that "I'm lucky that I had all nice boys in Grammar School." He says he has yet to see a red schoolhouse in California, as the Spanish style of architecture prevails.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Paul Stryker's letter continued in part as follows:

"In Santa Barbara, many Spanish customs are still preserved, for instance a marriage is a real festival occasion. The whole town turns out and it begins with a parade with the bride and her father seated in an ox-cart. Everyone is in a gay costume, and it ends with a brilliant Spanish dance by the bride, because if she can't dance, she isn't ready for marriage.

"I have spent many of my days in a schoolroom but I never expected to spend my nights there also. I sleep in the auditorium of one of Santa Barbara's grammar schools, taken over by the Army and used for a re-conditioning center. They are building up soldiers gradually for duty, rather than sending them straight back from the hospital. We are allowed to go to Santa Barbara State College, half a mile away, so I go three days a week to brush up on history. If someone were to ask me if I were in the Army, I'd have to think twice before remembering that I am."

Paul said that most of the patients have returned from overseas. He commented: "They have a definite seriousness about life, acquired from their experience. They have little fault to find, a fact from which most of us can learn a lot." Paul also has spent one week-end in Hollywood, and had an afternoon and evening with Charles Lang, the actor, who is a Three Bridges fellow that Paul knew when they were in High School. Lang's wife is Helen Parrish, also of the screen. At their home, Paul met Eve Arden, who plays comedy roles, often with Bob Hope. "I often wondered just how much like the rest of us movie stars are," Paul commented, "and I discovered that at least the ones I met were among the nicest people I know--very pleasant and very friendly."

Bill Lanning, who used to play the drums until even a Reading freight train refused to compete against him, is now in North Africa. He is attached to a medical unit....Bill Johnson is at Camp Roberts, California, and Hartwell Vannoy is assigned there, too, although he's been out on maneuvers...Bill Johnson reported a great trip across the country, going to Chicago, then swinging down to Texas and on across....Russ ("Hokey") Holcombe, who is in Texas, has had the pneumonia.

Looks as if the numbers are coming up for Harry McCandless and Jimmy Hall, both of whom get their preliminary physical checkup on April 26th. Jim had hoped to get into the Navy a short while back but thing didn't work out as he had anticipated.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Fine attendance in Calvary Baptist Church on Easter Sunday, and the same goes for all Hopewell churches. How the churches would exert a powerful influence if folks made it a regular habit...A handsome Bible marker, of red silk and gold decorations, was presented to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Temple and family in memory of Dorothy Temple Sheppard...The organ tuner picked just the right day to work in the church, being invited to have luncheon with the ladies who were having the joint meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society and Miss Snook's class....The church organ played pranks at a union service on Good Friday evening, holding one note continuously except when the organ motor was shut off....Marvin and Delbert Conover used a roller on the church lawn to get it in shape so the new grass planted last Summer can look its best....The kitchen floor in the church has been painted to complete the improvements there....Mrs. Walter Benson and Sophie did a job that ordinarily might go unnoticed, but it deserves mention for it was no easy task to sort out and "rout out" a lot of junk that had accumulated in the church attic...Rev. Hayes, former pastor, was in town recently, coming back to conduct the funeral of A. Livingston Phillips, former resident of Mt. Rose who died in Philadelphia...Several members of the church have pussy-willow sprouts, thanks to Miss Elsie Snook who recently brought some to decorate the platform and then saw to it that friends received a sprig for re-planting....And here's another bit of thoughtfulness to be credited to Mildred and Carolyn Rathousky, who had heard Mrs. Clifford Higgins say that she had never worn a gardenia, so they presented her with one, and then Mrs. Higgins was almost afraid to wear it to church, because she thought it might make her look too prominent.

TOWN ITEMS

A lot of peeping going on in the Post Office these days--not only the box-holders keyholing to see whether they have any mail, but dozens of baby chicks peeping about their next meal....Herb Forsythe has been substituting as a school-bus driver while Cal Hill has been ill, and there's ~~sawm~~ (Herb) who really crowds the steering wheel....Two local lads are said to have gone swimming in the icy water at the quarry pool on Easter Sunday....Those drinks served at Ockelmann's not only have a kick in them but evidently a neat profit as well, for he's just purchased the Vliet property across the street, a double-house and a smaller house with it....Wonder how Newell Holcombe is making out with his 70 pounds of sausage, put down in an electric freezer, only to discover that pork really shouldn't be kept frozen over six months:....

H.A. Smith, founder of the business bearing his name; died a short time ago at Belmar. He also was a former Mayor of Hopewell.... George Wyckoff, the blacksmith, had a close call with appendicitis, being rushed to Princeton Hospital April 14 and having quite a pull since then....Delbert Cox was married to a Trenton girl on April 9th....Hopewell has been almost a town without a resident pastor, the Baptists having a vacant parsonage since Mr. Johnston resigned; the Presbyterians having a stated supply, Dr. Jurji, who lives in Princeton and is in Hopewell infrequently, and Rev. Fuss, of the Methodist Church, who has been going to school five days a week in New Brunswick....Percy Leigh, the garage man, has been having a cellar dug back of his home on Princeton Avenue....All the stores are displaying garden seeds galore....At Rorer's, the window also contains "felt-hat rugs." That explains what happens to your old felt-hat--maybe....

At the Grammar School, commencement plans have kicked up the usual discussion as to whether the girl graduates should obtain those full-length evening dresses....Blanche Hill is engaged to Grant Veorhees' son, Edgar....When they have a trunk to weigh at the railroad station, the station agent has to dig down into his pocket for a penny so the scales will operate--that's the gospel truth....Garrett Conover, Jr.; was forced into the ditch near the top of the hill above Henry Conovers, and the woman driver, who doesn't live so very far away at that, went right on. Garrett sent his younger brother, Delbert, back home to get the tractor to pull the car out of the ditch....The dancing club started by some of the town's young people, attracted about 75 last week, staging the event in the basement of the Catholic Church. Those assisting included Don Selby, Dezzie Casey and his wife, Fred Peterson and his wife and others...

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mrs. Nag: "You deceived me before I married you. You said that you were well off."

Mr. Nag: "I was but I didn't know it."

You'll never develop eye trouble from looking at the brighter side of things.

Aviation isn't safe yet; you still have to take a taxi ride from the city to the airport.

First Veteran: "This war is different from World War I in which I served."

Second Veteran: "How come?"

First Veteran: "Back in 1918, a discharged service man apologized because he hadn't served overseas, but now a G.I. Joe apologizes if he hasn't met Mrs. Roosevelt during the war."

IN CLOSING

Well, it looks as if I have just about completed the story for this time. Now the mimeograph machine will do a little spinning, the "News" will go into envelopes and start on its way to the far Pacific, Australia and ships at sea; to North Africa and Italy; and to England, which most resembles a dynamite keg these days, packed as it is to the limit with the tools of invasion and countless thousands of Yanks. To those in the service, wherever you may be, let me say that you're very much in the thoughts of the folks back here, for we know the war is reaching the point where our armed forces are going to show the world how we finish off a job, once we really tackle it.

There's many a wish for your safety, many a prayer for your early return and the lasting hope that you will not let hardships, separation from friends and home, nor the bitterness of war undermine your faith in God and the better way of life.

97 W. Broad St. Hopewell, N.J.

Sincerely,
DORA H. ASHTON.

HOPEWELL NEWS

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A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Vol. II, No. 7

Hopewell, N. J., May 17, 1944

21st Issue

GETTING AROUND

Hello, everybody! And it's a hearty hello, too, for it comes to you from all your friends of Calvary Baptist Church, not from the Editor of "Hopewell News" alone.

And when "Hello" is said in the "News," it isn't like a greeting such as you might be giving if you were sitting in Cutter's drugstore telephone booth saying "Hello" to start off a conversation with somebody in Pennington or Cranbury. (Say, wouldn't that be a welcome experience for you right now--sitting there and getting a whiff of that clean smell that always goes with a drug counter, looking casually around at the showcases displaying soap, or powder, or peanut-brittle, and then while waiting for your number, to see a friend or casual acquaintance saunter in and ask for a bottle of ipecac).

Getting back, however, an "Hello" in the "News" really goes places. A copy of the last issue was sent to Persia, I discover, to a former Pennington fellow. So, we add that country to others, including China, India, North Africa, Italy, Great Britain, Australia, ships at sea in the Pacific and far-flung islands in that vicinity.

It also goes to all parts of the good old U.S.A., for fellows from our church are in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Georgia, etc. But near or far, it's here--a hearty hello to you from Hopewell!

CHURCH TO HAVE NEW HONOR ROLL

The choir of Calvary Baptist Church decided recently to obtain an Honor Roll--something attractive and permanent--to place on the wall and listing the names of all who went into military service. After all, the choir has seen eight of its members leave, one by one, and two others due to go by early Summer.

As soon as the plan was disclosed, the cash began to flow in. So the Honor Roll has been ordered and in all likelihood, will be dedicated at the Memorial Day Service on Sunday May 28th. It is expected that Mothers and Dads will be on hand for the observance in YOUR honor. The Honor Roll itself is made of walnut, with the individual names attractively lettered.

FRANK EGE MISSING IN ACTION

These heart-breaking words, "Missing in Action" came to Fred Ege and his wife, of Columbia Avenue, a short time ago, about their son, Frank, and the suspense continues to date. He was aboard a ship that was torpedoed in the Mediterranean last month. Apparently it happened before Frank had set foot on European soil. The last letter received from him had been mailed in this country before he sailed, it is reported. He was attached to a photography unit in the Army Air Force and previously had been stationed in Oklahoma. He went into the Army Air Forces in January, 1943.

Frank's parents cherish the hope that he may have been among those rescued--a large percentage of the personnel aboard ship--and that word will come soon of his safety. It seems more than strange, for Frank was a cousin of Irvin VanNeste, of Hopewell, who met his death in North Africa, while he was serving in a Tank Corps that aided in routing the Nazis from Tunisia.

HOW ABOUT THIS?

Heard the other day that there was man going around Hopewell selling shoes without asking for ration stamps. "Black market?" Nope--it was a blacksmith!

... hope that Mr. Gray would have a happy and blessed ministry

SOME BIG FISHING POLES

(2)

You should have seen the whopping big poles that arrived in Hopewell and were unloaded and hauled away with much difficulty. They arrived on three flat cars, hooked together, so you can imagine how they looked. In reality, they measured from 95 to 105 feet each! As someone remarked, "Somebody must be stocking up with some new fishing poles." Actually, they were for the telephone company and they were taken over to the vicinity of Lawrenceville.

The poles were so long that it took a lot of figuring as to how they could swing them around the corners in Hopewell. Finally, permission was obtained to cut across Dr. Pierson's lawn with the rear trucks as they swung down Blackwell Avenue. Then the poles had to be taken to the Pennington traffic circle and on over by that route. The poles had come in from Minneapolis, it was reported.

NEW PASTOR SENDS A MESSAGE

You've seen mention made before this of Raymond A. Gray. He's the new pastor coming to Hopewell on June 1st, you know. You'll hear lots more about him, not only because he's the new Baptist minister but also because he's the sort that is going to make a name for himself because of his preaching ability and his eagerness to accomplish results.

Here is a greeting that he sent to the members and friends of Calvary Baptist Church:

"It is with a deep sense of appreciation to you that I face the approaching experience of working with and for you and the community. You have given me the opportunity to begin a task to which I have dedicated my prime interests of life. I trust that our fellowship may be built upon common aspirations and dreams for the betterment of humanity. I shall call upon you for faith, confidence, loyalty; I hope you will call upon me for these and for any other needs which I can fill. God helping us, our labors together will bear fruit for His Kingdom."

With graduation almost at hand, the closing of his ministry to two New Hampshire churches where he served as a student pastor, the job of packing up, and the final preparation for questioning before being ordained as a clergyman, Mr. Gray reported last week that "The tension is getting quite severe right now. I think never before have I had so much to do in so little time." Hiring a mover proved to be an all-day chase and even yet, Mr. Gray isn't entirely sure when his goods will start from Newton Centre (just outside Boston) for Hopewell.

PROWLER AROUND CHURCH

A flurry of excitement developed because a prowler was around town about two weeks ago. Doc Stults was awakened about 2 A. M. on a Sunday morning when he heard someone banging against doors and windows in Calvary Baptist Church. He saw a man, who seemed to be wearing a green sweater, trying to get into the church, working at the door on the east side of the church--the one that is very rarely used. Doc Stults shouted at him--for the man acted as if he might be looking for the side-door of Gebhart's Hotel. However, the man didn't appear to be too swift on his feet--but swift enough to be gone before the Police Dept. was likely to apprehend him.

Later, it developed that someone--perhaps the same man--had broken a window, a small one near the doorway--at Helen Dorio's beauty parlor, on Bread Street, near Princeton Avenue. Also, Claude Dilts thought he heard someone during the night.

Word came that a man was arrested later at Flemington who was believed to have been implicated in the Hopewell prewlings. Police felt that he was a dope fiend, this accounting for his strange behavior.

The only damage done around the church was the forcing of a couple of locks, the catch on a basement door lock being bent badly out of shape so it wouldn't open.

ONE DILL PICKLE EVERY DAY

Lois Wyckoff, who works in Louie's Bakery (the Eagle Bakery) had heard that if you eat a pickle, you can soon tell whether you are getting the mumps. When cases were pretty numerous around town, she began on the pickles--one a day. Then it happened! What a scratchy throat it was, too. Heme she went--yes, "Lois has the mumps." Imagine her disappointment (?) when it turned out to be a case of tonsillitis. Of course, she had quick recovery.

REPORT FROM FORMER PASTOR

(3)

N. Vance Johnston, our former Pastor, has started a little publication that he calls "The First Baptist Chatter-Box" to send to the fellows from his new church down in Vineland. The idea is going over well, even though he is a bit handicapped by not knowing his people very well, because of the short time since he went there to begin his Vineland ministry.

Davie Johnston has been having the scarlet fever, a fairly mild case. His baby sister and Father have kept clear of his room and hope to avoid the germ. Mr. Johnston is doing a bit of gardening--peas and onions but isn't going to work up a flower garden this year. Wonder if he will build a fence around this one--like the fence that "provided the choir with a topic to kick around in idle jest," as he expressed it in a recent letter.

NOW IT'S CAPTAIN GINTER

Chaplain John H. Ginter, of the Presbyterian Church, has been advanced a grade from Lieutenant to Captain--and given a new assignment. He has moved from Buckley Field, near Denver, Colorado, to Seattle, Washington. He is at Boeing Field, where they produce bombers, etc. If his wife and two boys go out to spend the Summer with him--and maybe longer--they'll have some additional mileage to cover.

ENTERING SERVICE

A group of 90 fellows assembled by the Selective Service board in Pennington went to Camden recently. As a result, several more fellows from Hopewell will be going into the service. Included are Stephen Woolston, Harry McCandless, Jimmy Hall, Herb Wilson and Jack Wyck-off. Jimmy Hall was accepted for the Navy--making him feel much better about an earlier turn-down for that branch.

Harry McCandless has sold his car to Johnny Cromwell, as one of the steps in preparation for the day of departure. Harry hopes to finish his High School course next month before starting service.

PUDDING IS NOT HIS DISH

Claude Errons rates rather high as a farmer but his reputation as a cook is something else--especially in light of what happened recently. His wife was substituting as a teacher at the Elementary School and Claude decided he could make a little pudding in her absence. He prepared the pudding, poured it in a Pyrex dish and then placed it on the stove to cook. He didn't know that there's a gadget that spreads the heat out and prevents certain things from happening.

Well, the heat soon reached a point where something had to let go. And it did! As a matter of fact, the pudding decorated the ceiling and sidewalls of the kitchen most effectively. Claude, according to latest reports, intends to focus his attention exclusively on farming.

BONER IN THE "HERALD"

There was a line in the "Herald" last week that certainly must have resulted from one of those mental lapses. It was in a "Card of Thanks" and it read something like this: "We wish to thank all those who aided in the death of ----."

LOT OF SPRINGTIME ACTIVITY--OR INACTIVITY

Real Springtime has arrived in Hopewell. Here are a few items to prove it:

Lawnmowers to be heard almost continuously from one end of town to the other.

George Diles, wearing his time-stained straw hat, smoking his pipe, with his walking stick beside him, as he sits on the low steps of Newell Helcombe's plumbing shop on a Saturday morning.

The imprint of two hands on a telephone pole in front of Dr. Pierson's home, the outlines being made by putting a hand in lime freshly sprinkled on the lawn.

Spencer Moore's signboard, "Fresh Oysters Opened Daily," moved to his back yard.

Orville Carkhuff and his tractor flying around town, as he tries to get all the garden spots plowed.

Boxes of plants in front of the stores--tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, lettuce--and some potted flowers.

expressed a hope that Mr. Gray would have a happy and blessed...

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Saw Andy Wyckoff driving down the road, just as if he had never injured his hand in a circular saw. It's well on the mend, but has been in a cast. Looks pretty certain that the doctor saved his fingers, although he may not have full use of them....Glenn Agin is now clerking in Moore's grocery store....Edgar Labaw has given up his job as custodian at the Presbyterian Church, so Jack Ginter was subbing and more recently one of the Embley boys....Emery Uddike isn't taking care of the Old School Baptist Cemetery these days, having turned the custodial work over to others before he went to Florida some time ago....The Maples have moved to Trenton....Barbara Maple had worked in Ewing's Corner Store, you know.

Walter Benson has been itching to put a paint brush on his cabin upon on Sourland Mountain.....Delbert Conover, who would rather ride a tractor than eat a meal, put a fresh coat of paint on it before he started Spring plowing....Hopewell was well represented at the Princeton High School band concert and the Hopewellites especially liked a number called "Coming Round the Mountain," during which the band leader shouted "All Aboard for Hopewell!" The program included a cornet solo by Paul Ashton....Several Hopewell students were chosen to play in the State High School Symphonic Band for a concert given in Princeton and repeated in Trenton. Included were John Cromwell, Jack Ginter and Paul Ashton.

Scott Dansberry, Jr. moved on the first of May to his new home at Columbia and Seminary Avenues. He begins to understand what is involved in renovating....Mrs. Florence Bodine recently became Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star here in Hopewell....Hope Laning, who is studying nursing at the Orange Memorial Hospital; has been home on vacation....Mrs. Louis Labaw, retired school teacher, has been ill but during that time has received over 100 "get-well" cards..

The death of Harry Latto has been a severe shock to his many friends. He died last Sunday, having been seriously ill for about a week. Since last Summer, he had had a long struggle with a bronchial condition but had appeared to be getting better. The best tribute that can be paid to him, perhaps, is the fact that he was serving as treasurer of three or four organizations, including the Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge and the American Legion Post in Skillman. A man has to be respected as well as trusted to win such honors.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry, Camp McCain, Miss.) has received his expert infantryman's badge. To win it, he had to qualify in about 35 tests. It's a bar made of sterling silver with a blue background and a silver muzzle-loading musket on it.

There's good word about A/C William Lowe (Army Air Force, San Antonio, Texas). He didn't go to the Infantry in that wholesale transfer of Air Force men from college courses, after all. It seems that the pre-ground forces men were the unfortunates. Bill got through classification all right and is now taking pre-flight training. In other words, he is a "gadget," as they refer to Aviation Cadets as they reach the starting line. The course is plenty hard, he reports, with a 7-day-a-week program, and it runs for five weeks there, but the second five weeks that he is to spend there involves a different schedule. He adds that "I'm quite a bit farther from home than I was (previously at Burlington, Vt.) and that makes me enjoy reading the "News" even more."

Fred VanLiew (PFC in 240th Army Band at Fort Jackson, S.C.) is in town at present. About two weeks ago, his brother, Harold, was up from Norfolk, Va. where he is an A.O.M. 3/c in Navy Ordnance.

George O. Phillips, (S.F.1/c, Navy) who is doing his second hitch in the Navy, you'll recall, has been shifted from Rhode Island to Tempkinsville, Staten Island, N.Y. He's still trying to figure out how come his plea to see action at sea has been thrown into reverse.

DOINGS IN THE CHURCH

Copies of "The Torch" giving most of the church news were sent out a few days ago and your copy probably has reached you. Hope you are reading a section or two at a time, for it's quite a volume. The pastor usually turns it out but a special committee worked on it this time, including Ing Conover Hill, Margaret Hullfish, Mrs. Edward Lindsay, Delbert Conover, Mildred Rathousky, Paul Ashton and Dean H. Ashton. One night, while the working crew was in high gear, a special letter about coming services had to be produced, and it took just two hours from the time work started on it until the letters were run off, addressed and in the mail-box at the Post Office, at 11.30 P.M.! Margaret Hullfish pedaled her bike from the Ashtons, where the work was being done, to carry the letters to the Post Office, and as she expressed it, "I looked at the Old School Cemetery and it was dark there, but the other side of the street was even darker, so I stepped on it even more, and before I knew it, I was there."

Speaking of bikes, Dot Lindsay did a bit of fancy riding, too, to attend a Ladies' Aid meeting at Temples. It remains to be seen whether others in the Ladies' Aid try to follow the same practice.... The women of the church netted over \$100 profit from a cafeteria supper held on April 29th. They served 200 or more, in fact they almost encountered a food shortage, trying to take care of everyone. They were anxious to raise enough to clean up bills on parsonage improvements, etc. The LLL class of young ladies recently donated a combination stool and step-ladder for the church kitchen.... Speaking of money raising, a Rummage Sale brought in another \$70 a short time ago.

Don't know whether Doc Stults appreciates so much bell-ringing but the bell in the church steeple has become a definite part of our Morning Worship services. Remember how it sounds? Nowadays, the service opens with soft organ music, then three traditional notes on the organ chimes, meaning "Come to church." As the tones die away, our church bell is set ringing after which the regular Organ Prelude begins and the service is definitely under way. Incidentally, there is no shortage of manpower when it comes to ringing the bell. Clyde Ashton does it most of the time, since the first bell rings at 9.45, previous to Bible School, but several other members of Mrs. Lawson's class, who meet in the church balcony, compete for the honor if Clyde happens to be elsewhere when it's time to ring the bell for 15 minutes ahead of the church service.

The annual church election was held last Friday night. Deacons reelected were A. W. Morrell, Howard Quick and J.R. Riley. George McCandless was re-named as a trustee, and Joseph Johnson added to the same board. Leon Hill, who had served 18 years as a trustee, asked to be relieved. John Vandewater also retired from the Trustees Board after long service. Call Hill was renamed as church treasurer; George Savidge as financial secretary, while Margaret Hullfish became assistant church clerk, as Mildred Rathousky asked that someone be substituted for her. Edward M. Haynes, church clerk with his years of service almost beyond counting, was also re-elected.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The bachelor was asked: "Which do you think are happier, people who are married or people who are not?"
His answer was; "Well, I don't know. I think there's as many as is that ain't, as ain't that is."

IN CLOSING

Hope you've enjoyed having Hopewell pay you a little visit --in this unusual fashion. The fine response to every issue of the "News" makes it a pleasure to assemble material for the next one. Letters are always more than welcome, and it appears that the folks in Hopewell are just as eager for word about those in the service, as vice versa.

With every good wish to you,

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL NEWS

Circulation
World-Wide

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now
and Then About Your Town, Your
Church, Your Friends and You

Limited
Edition

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

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Hopewell, N. J., June 8, 1944

22nd Issue

NEW PASTOR ARRIVES

Pastor and Mrs. Raymond A. Gray have arrived--he has preached the first sermon of his pastorate at Calvary Baptist Church--been formally installed--made another swell impression--and as he expressed it, is "ready to plunge my fists in, clear up to the elbows," in the work that awaits him. And Mrs. Gray, who took the town, the church and the people on faith--not coming to Hopewell last March 26th when Mr. Gray was heard as a candidate--is very happy about the appearance of things, the cordial welcome extended, and the spic-and-span condition of the parsonage. And Mrs. Gray, friendly by nature, has already won a host of friends who describe her as "grand," "a fine pastor's wife," and "easy to meet."

Mr. Gray, a hustler, was in Hopewell little more than 24 hours before he was "digging in" at a meeting of the Board of Deacons; discussing the Vacation Church School, the Children's Day program, and beginning to get a grasp on the scope of the work. The Grays had driven down from Newton Centre, Mass. (just outside Boston) in his Ford sedan and discovered that their van of furniture had not arrived. So they were delayed until the following morning in beginning to unpack and set their new home to rights.

Even then, there was the first sermon in his new church to whip into final form, as well as his part in the Installation Service; folks dropping in to say "Welcome to Hopewell," as well as many details to look after.

Then Sunday came, and an outstanding day in the history of Calvary Baptist Church. The attendance at Morning Worship totaled 141, being just above the Easter Sunday turnout. At the evening Installation Service, the attendance again was above the 100-mark. Big doings--all right--so much so that one woman admitted that when the collection plate was passed, she was so excited about that time that she discovered to her horror that she had dropped a penny (1) on the collection plate instead of a quarter.

All in all, it was a great start on a new page in church history.

INSTALLATION SERVICE WAS OUTSTANDING EVENT

Five notables, in addition to Pastor Gray, took part in the Installation Service held June 4th. Included were Dr. Roy B. Deer, Executive Secy. of the Baptist State Convention, who gave the charge to the new pastor; Rev. E.C. Dunbar, of Flemington; Rev. Paul Smith, of Lambertville; Miss Julia Huffman, Moderator of the Central Baptist Association; Edward M. Haynes, Church Clerk, who presided, and Mr. Gray. Mr. Haynes remarked that he had witnessed the arrival of 11 different pastors during his association with the church. The choir sang a special anthem.

Dr. Deer said there were many fine Baptist churches in New Jersey but Hopewell's is "the best." He told Mr. Gray that this church probably would always hold first place in his affections, and "although you may make some mistakes and have some failures, you will find in this, your first church, personal relationships that you are unlikely to find in any other churches." He outlined certain suggestions: (1) Keep close to your people for "all have deep problems of their own and they will seek to share them with you to the extent that you open your heart and your own life;" (2) Keep close to the Bible, studying it and remembering it as the central book of the ministry, presenting the picture of God, the glory of redemption and the true message of life; and (3) Keep close to your Lord. On that point, Dr. Deer said: "I say it reverently, but your life will mean more to the folks you meet on the street than will this Book itself for yours will be the life they will read. Many will be drawn to love the Lord because they first loved you."

Dr. Deer added that "With the poise that comes through calm confidence in the eternal verities of life, one can move calmly ahead" and he expressed a hope that Mr. Gray would have a happy and blessed ministry.

HONOR ROLL DEDICATED

The names of all our fellows who are in the armed forces now are on permanent display in Calvary Baptist Church. An attractive Honor Roll made of walnut, on which the names appear upon raised strips in gold lettering, was dedicated on Sunday, May 28th. For that occasion, the choir sang "The Recessional," by Kipling ("Lord God of hosts, be with us yet") and Dr. Seay, of Pennington School, gave a splendid Memorial Day address.

Mr. J. R. Riley made the presentation speech, and read off the names of all who are in the service. Then he read an Edgar Guest poem, part of which follows:

"The boys upon the honor roll, God bless them all, I pray.
God watch them when they sleep at night, and guard them through
the day.

We've stamped their names upon our walls, the list in glory grows,
Our brave boys and our splendid boys who stand to meet our foes.

"Oh, here are sons of mothers fair and fathers fine and true,
The little ones of yesterday, the children that we knew;
We thought of them as youngsters gay, still laughing at their games
And then we found the honor roll emblazoned with their names.

"We miss their laughter and their cheer; it seems but yesterday
We had them here to walk with us, and now they've marched away.
And here where once their smiles were seen we keep a printed scroll
The absent boy we long to see is on the Honor Roll."

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Everybody loves a parade so Hopewell's Memorial Day event was well received. It was the first one in two years and everyone seemed glad to have the parade restored as a community feature. Comments that follow are not meant to detract from its significance but to give you a glimpse of it as the parade goes by.

Here it comes! The band is playing. They're coming out of Louellen Street, a little behind time, of course. It's the band from the Quartermaster's Depot at Belle Mead. (For a time, it seemed as if it might be impossible to get a band this year). And look at the bunch of horseback riders! Count 'em--why there's fifteen of them. Never saw half that many before and hear the clatter of hoofs on the concrete. Sure enough, there's Mr. Butcher and his son, Joe, and Pather Thomson and Dezzie Casey on an Indian pony, and there's Adele Hurley, an Norman Gebhart and Lee Thomas-Highcower (red shirt n-everything)--yes and Harbourn's famed "Buffalo Bill", 68-year-old Charles Lennox, who wears several medals received when he served with the British Lancers. (One of the boys asked him where he got all the medals, and he replied: "I wasn't throwing snowballs!")

Who's that--yes, it's Herb Rorer acting as parade marshal. His suit fits him tighter every year, it seems. And that's John Faussett in charge of the color guard and firing squad. Yes, there's Lloyd Drake in the color guard, and look--that's Lieut. Harold Temple, of the Army Air Corps, home on furlough, who's using up some of the precious last hours of his stay at home to honor the heroic dead.

Now the groups are coming thick and fast--the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, the 4-H club, the Firemen and their Auxiliary and a float prepared by Mercer Grange. And who's that driving? It's Andy Wyckoff (his hand pretty well recovered after that mishap with a circular saw). Then there's the school children, Russ Shepherd with them.

Now the parade swings up Greenwood Ave. to Highland Cemetery. A prayer is said, taps sounded after a three-pounds salute by the firing squad, and taps is echoed by a trumpeter in a far corner of the cemetery. The parade re-forms and in succession visits St. Michael's Orphanage, the Grammar School monument, the Catholic Cemetery, and the Old School Baptist Cemetery. The ceremonies are repeated at each place. Then the band strikes up "Star Spangled Banner" and the parade is over.

However, the children scamper for their ice cream and soda tickets--while many of the bandmen head for the hotel and a "short snort!"

FAITHFUL SERVICE

EC Haynes is marking the 40th anniversary of his employment at the Skillman State Village. That's a record of long-faithful service to the State in a job where he has been a helpful influence in many lives. Mr. Haynes is Chief Steward, a position of trust and extensive responsibility. Incidentally, his record as Church Clerk in Calvary Baptist Church runs almost as long, another achievement to his credit.

WINS COMMISSION AS LIEUTENANT

It's Lieutenant Harold Temple, of the Army Air Corps, by reason of his graduation on May 23 at Turner Field, Albany, Georgia. Immediately thereafter he returned home for a visit and then reported back at the same field on June 1st, with the hope of being assigned to the Bomber Pilot School. Before becoming a Second Lieutenant, Harold had received the thorough training that goes with pilot training in the Army. He has had night flying, instrument flying, and piloting some two-motored jobs.

His parents held a covered-dish supper and lawn party in his honor and friends had a fine chance to chat with him. They found Harold to be the same Harold as ever; no boastfulness but with self-confidence and the same old cheerful nature. As he talked of spins and stalls, and "buzzing" and the mechanics of flying, he acted as if it was just "shop talk." He told of his experience in the high-pressure chamber of a plane that went up to 35,000 feet. They wore oxygen masks but the "guinea pig" in the plane had none and he "passed out" around 18,000 feet, still insisting that he didn't need any oxygen yet.

Harold has the distinction of being the first chap from Calvary Baptist Church to become a commissioned officer.

CLIFFORD LEMING WINS AIR MEDAL

As a waist gunner in a "Flying Fortress," Staff Sergeant Clifford H. Leming, of Model Avenue, has won distinction. He now possesses an Air Medal after being cited for "meritorious achievements." He is with the Eighth Army Air Force and has been in on numerous bombing trips over Germany and occupied territory. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Leming.

BOB HILL MEETS OLD FRIEND

Bob Hill, Fl/c, son of Leon Hills and husband of Ina Conover Hill, couldn't believe his eyes when he bumped into Parvin Stryker, of Blawenburg, recently. Stryker is in the U.S. Marines and the meeting occurred while both were on liberty. By a bit of guessing, it looks as if the meeting occurred somewhere in Hawaii.

With Bob Hill at the time was his buddy, Raymond Burd, MM3/c, formerly of Prospect Street, Hopewell. Ray is on the same ship as Bob and they spend most of their waking hours together. Bob writes that everyone is sporting "a swell tan or a darned sone sunburn." He added that "everything is fine with us."

FEUD BETWEEN TOWNS

The rivalry between Hopewell and Pennington appears to have been carried to extremes lately by some of the "young fry." It's hard to get the facts but it is contended by Pennington lads that a few Hopewell fellows "beat up" a Pennington School student one night recently, and the victim was in bad shape for two or three days. A short time later, a Hopewell fellow got off the bus in Pennington and was greeted by a shout, "Here comes Hopewell" and found himself surrounded by a number of Pennington defenders. There probably are other versions of the story but it all sounds silly, doesn't it, when there's so much scrapping going on in the world and about things that are really important.

NEW PASTOR'S FIRST SERMON

Perhaps the best way to acquaint you with the new pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, is to give you a chance to read some of the thoughts he expressed in his first sermon on June 4th. He spoke on "Masters of Life, or Mastered by Life," and you'll find it contains much that is worth thinking about.

He said in part:

"There are people whom life shakes around like dice in a dice-box casting them out at will. But there are some who stand up straight and make life deliver the best it has to offer. The individual who said 'I am the master of my fate, the captain of my soul,' was fooling no one more than himself. But I am not speaking of that kind of mastery but the kind that Jesus exemplified in his life.

"Inasmuch as God has set his children in a world of his creation, we have an opportunity to make decisions affecting our daily lives. But what we do with our lives depends upon the religion with which we face life. Our religion is the most precious irreplaceable thing in God's world. Without it, we will be defeated by the intricacies of our daily living. (See next page)

NEW PASTOR'S FIRST SERMON (continued)

"I would like to suggest three things we must have if we are to win a mastery over life:

"1. First, we must have the courage to stand up straight, pull back our shoulders, raise our eyes to the pathway ahead and start walking. Face life as it is, with all of its demoralization, tragedy and sin. We cannot master that which we refuse to face. If we may happen to fail some little particular, we still can be masters of life because we have played the better game. He who faces life fully unafraid, yet aware of its pitfalls and dangers, can become a master. Constantly, we have the tension of courage pulling against fear, the good against the bad. These conflicts must be resolved by facing life, never by evading it. Because Jesus faced life as he found it, he mastered the world. We as Christians are not ordinary men of the world because we have potential salvation within us.

"Secondly, we must recognize that life is fundamentally based on spiritual truth. Might we not have the Kingdom of God today if we had not in the past failed to realize that life is based on spiritual powers and forces alone. But do you really believe that? If you really believe it, life would be far different for many Christians. For example, I ask if you believe in the power of prayer, for there is a spiritual force. Then why do you not pray without ceasing for our world today? Again, you believe that love is a greater force than hate? Then why do we not think constantly in terms of love rather than hate. If life is spiritually founded, then we must keep that faith living and alive, so the world can come back to it when this madness of war is over. War fills a man's whole living until the Sermon on the Mount seems an irrelevance to a man in the midst of the mighty problems of today. Yet it is in the midst of a great storm that man needs the compass needle that is true.

"It may be true that war at present is the greatest expedient but war is not and can never be Christian. Some may say that I am too idealistic but there can be no war in a world that is truly Christian. We can go into all the causes of war but they all boil down to one thing--that the world hasn't become Christian. It is the special function of the church in days of war to keep alive the devotion to Christ that war obscures. Could we not learn this from the dictators themselves? They have tried to become masters of life by overthrowing the whole spiritual basis of life and substituting aggression and power. Cannot we learn, then, that if men would become masters of life, it must be recognized that it is founded upon spiritual forces.

"Thirdly, we must realize that we receive the energizing force from above to life a masterful life. Men can never become masters without looking unto Him who is the supreme Master of life. To Him will we give our allegiance and our loyalty. Him only will we believe. Him only will we love. Will you be mastered by life with its burdens, or will you take Jesus as your Christ, your Master, for only as you take Him can you live a masterful life."

HARTWELL VANNOY GOES ACROSS

About to be shipped across, Hartwell Vannoy paid an unexpected visit back home. He had come East from Camp Roberts, California, to an embarkation area. Of course, the fellow who was in town might have been someone who resembled Hartwell, for Hartwell was supposed to be with a unit being held closely together to await shipping orders.

THE CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN

The circus was in town last Saturday--Reo Bros.--did you ever hear of it? They put up their tent on the Hart Avenue ball diamond. Some folks asked when the "big tent" was going to be put up, but it was a one-ring circus so a smaller tent did all right. They had two fancy-riding horses and four ponies, and about a dozen trick dogs. For music, victrola records were played and there was an acrobat--billed as the "youngest in the world." The patrons couldn't have soft drinks at the afternoon show because they didn't get iced up in time. (The soft drinks, not the patrons). Adults paid 80 cents, children 50 cents. When the show pulled out Sunday morning after two Saturday shows, most folks concluded that it wasn't giving any serious competition as yet to the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey outfit.

SPONSORS OF THIS ISSUE

The cost of this issue of the "Hopewell News" is underwritten through contributions made by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoagland, and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob VanDoren, of Hopewell, and Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Conover, Jr. of Stanhope, N.J.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Harry "Hap" Erickson was home from Camp Cooke, California, and attended church. On the first morning after he got home, he asked for his old overalls and his every-day shoes. He said it sure felt good to get back into them and he went sauntering down the road to visit friends. Nothing "show-off" about him. "Hap" has gained in weight, moving up to 186 pounds from 154 when he went into the Army.

Good news comes concerning Jack VanLiew. He's back in the Army Air Force. He is now at Bowman Field, Kentucky, with an AAF Base Unit. Jack, you'll recall, was getting college work out in Illinois when that drastic cut in personnel took place, and he was shifted to the Infantry. Now, however, it appears that he was one of 14 men in his division who were shifted back to the Air Force. He expects to work with the Air Transport Command doing a few evacuation and combat cargo work.

A/C Kenneth R. Burroughs is out at Carlsbad, New Mexico, known as "The Land of Enchantment" to which he adds "Ha!" He's moving ahead and if all goes well, may become an Officer within the next few days. The eliminations in his squadron have been high, 50 out of 170, but Kenny has passed the crucial tests in bombing, navigation and the physical. At Carlsbad, he has put in more than 60 hours of flying time, and says "It's a lot of work but plenty of fun, too, and I'm convinced that it's safer than riding on the ground."

Arch Litzen, AMM 2/c, is somewhere far out in the Pacific and finds that "the mail system is pretty poor." For security reasons, his V-mail letters tell little except that welcome reassurance that all goes well with him....Out in Hawaii, "Reg" Hurley is now addressed as Corporal.....Fred VanLiew, PFC, was home from Fort Jackson, S.C. and believed that he might soon be on his way.....George O. Phillips, SFl/c has now moved to Sampson, New York, where he is assigned to Public Works. He had been on Staten Island and previously at Davisville, R.I. Franklin V.D. Hill is at Parris Island, S.C. taking Marine training. He had been hospitalized, it is reported but is back on the ground.

Pfc. Robert O. Lawson, husband of Mrs. Margaret Lawson (who is a niece of the Princeton Ave. Snooks) sends an interesting letter from "Paradise Valley" in New Guinea. His wife, Peg, sends him the "News" regularly. He says he feels that he knows Hopewell pretty well and reports that he is looking forward anxiously to seeing and living there. He hopes to be home by Christmas, for after all, he has been in New Guinea for 17 months and overseas for 23 months, the rest being spent in Australia. He regrets that no other Hopewell fellows seem to be in his "neck of the jungle." He adds that "though the tropics have beauty, they cannot compare with our Spring and Fall in old New Jersey."

Cpl. John W. Flagg is in Hawaii with a Fighter Squadron. You remember him most likely as the chap who worked for Norman Blackwell for about a year and a half. Friends in town (Hopewell) have sent him the last couple of issues of the "News", it seems, so there's another copy that takes a long journey.... William H. Wyckoff, SM3/c, has been getting the "News" with amazing speed, traveling about as fast as V-mail. Bill says he had a letter from Charlie Bregenzler who is now stationed somewhere in North Africa. Bill agrees that life in Italy differs considerably from at home, but he says their system of money and "even their lingo" is easy to understand.... Bill Johnson is now a Corporal in the Infantry, and stationed at Camp Roberts, California. He's been learning the ins-and-outs of 60 mm. mortars and expecting to get on the firing range before long. He's been looking forward to a trip to Los Angeles, 200 miles away.

CHURCH DOINGS

Scott Dansberry, Jr. has been re-elected as Bible School superintendent for his second year. He's handling the job in capable fashion. Roma Weaver, secretary, is taking on the treasurer's duties, too, as Harry McCandless expects an Army call one of these days. Sadie Dansberry will play the piano in the main school when Harry leaves.... N. Vance Johnston, former pastor, and Dean H. Ashton are co-authors of an article that has just appeared in the "Baptist Leader," a monthly magazine issued by the American Baptist Publication Society. It describes how Pulpit Committees function when seeking new pastors, but it so happens that the article was written late last Summer before Mr. Johnston knew he was likely to be interviewed and called to the pastorate of another church.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A man stood at a street corner with a gun in one hand and a knife in the other. A policeman approached him, and said: "Hey, what's the big idea?" The man with the weapons replied: "I'm not going to harm anybody. I'm just trying to decide whether to cut across the street or shoot down the alley."

(6)
AROUND THE TOWN

Percy Leigh's house down on Princeton Avenue is up on stilts just at present. It's being moved back over that new cellar that he had dug recently. Looks as if it will quite an improvement when the job's done....Mrs. Ginter and her two sons, Jack and Donald, leave on June 27th for Seattle, Wash. to spend the Summer with Captain Ginter, Chaplain in the Army Air Corps who is stationed at the Boeing aircraft plant....Ed VanArsdale's roses are a sight to see these days. He sure knows the secret of getting excellent bloom.

They've been ploughin up section of Weart's swimming pool that wasn't concreted. It looks as if it is being deepened but whether all of it is to be concreted remains to be seen....Mrs. Florence Miller, daughter of the Warren Harts, left recently for California as her husband, H.E. Miller (an officer in the Seabees) was sent there not so long ago. She arrived on a Monday and on Wednesday he was sent out, destination unannounced.....Hope Laning graduated from the Orange Memorial Hospital a short time ago but her training course runs on until Fall.

These hot days, Mayor Metz likes to park his car under the trees opposite the bank, instead of alongside Cutter's drugstore, to take advantage of the cool shade....Glenn Agin, working at Moore's, gets kidded about being sent down to the cellar and later being found asleep down there on a sack of potatoes....The Verann Vandewaters have twin daughters....George Wyckoff, the blacksmith, is much improved and about town after that appendicitis operation....How the front of the Post Office would be improved in appearance if the telephone company, owners of the building, would take down that winter front.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

When the committee arrived to present Rip Van Loaf with the \$10 prize for being the laziest man in the county, Rip was distressed. "Boys," he said, "if y're set on givin' this to me, do y'mind rollin' me over and puttin' it in my back pocket?"

Here's a bit of post-war dreaming by an alleged poet:

"A garden and a cow
A smokehouse and a sow
Twenty-four chickens and a rooster
And you'll live better than you useter."

IN CLOSING

In the foregoing, nothing has been said about the way the town reacted when "D-Day" arrived. That's because of a belief that perhaps you'd prefer the every-day news of home, rather than a long story about the thing that's on your mind constantly. However, you should know that there was an unprecedented observance that marked the day in Hopewell.

Church bells rang at 3 P.M. to prompt everyone to say a prayer for success in the invasion, victory and the safety of loved ones. But that was not all of it. Almost spontaneously, a desire arose for a community church service and word flashed around that it would be held in the Presbyterian Church at 8 P.M. When the time came, the church was crowded. The program was impressive, not only because many persons felt a desire to look to God and came together to unite their prayers, but because it was a recognition that human strength alone is not sufficient--in war times nor in peace times. As the bulletin board of one Trenton church expressed it "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done--In Me --Now." That attitude, not just for "D-Day" with all its emotional background, might make this a better world in which to live.

The "big event" has made it crystal clear, however, that your cause is our cause--and success for our fighting forces is devoutly desired.

Hope all who read this will feel inclined to reach for a piece of paper to report on how things are going. Always glad to receive letters, for the sake of "the other fellow" who likes to get the news, as well as for the folks back home.

Best of luck to you--safety in the roughest going you experience, and the best of health as you look confidently toward the future.
Sincerely,

27 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, N.J.

DEAN H. ASHTON.

HOPEWELL NEWS

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now and Then
About Your Town, Your Church, Your Friends and You

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

VOL. II, No. 9

Hopewell, N. J., June 28, 1944

23rd Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Something new has been added--notice it? In fact, a couple of things. Up above, there is a brand new "masthead" designed to dress up this little newspaper written for servicemen. Hope you like it. It may look rather formal, but the contents of the paper will continue to be as heretofore--as newsy and chatty as possible. But it seemed as if the "News" is growing up and deserved to be made a little more attractive.

Then how about this type--do you like it? It makes it possible to cram a little more news into each issue on each page. In fact, it may be possible--since we are in days of severe paper shortages--to put almost as much on two pages, printed on both sides, as went heretofore on three pages, both sides, when larger type was used. However, if we hear any serious complaints about eye-strain, etc., we can go back to larger type on short notice.

I have some other plans on foot, too, but will say nothing more about that until the next issue, but I anticipate that it may be a pleasant surprise. Always trying to improve this friendly service, so you can keep informed about what's doing back home.

Remember how I mentioned in an earlier issue that it would be interesting to know more about the places and circumstances under which each issue was read? Well, that brought a real surprise a short time ago. Cpl. Frank P. Jones, who lived over Rosedale way, got busy and sent a report from India, where he is serving with a Mobile Quartermaster's Battalion. Referring to the issue then in his possession, he wrote:

"When I began reading it I was sitting in an Indian tea-garden. The monsoon clouds suddenly lifted and we boarded our plane for a routine flight. I read a few items more as we crossed the high Indian-Burma frontier. Your invitation to write, and your good wishes for us in the last two paragraphs were read after the completion of our mission and while on the return flight over the valleys and mountains of Burma."

Think of that--the "Hopewell News" being read high in the clouds over India and Burma! Incidentally, Frank is believed to be doing his part in getting supplies through to the advance outposts--even though he refers to it as "a routine flight."

IT'S LIEUT. KENNETH BURROUGHS

"Ken" Burroughs has gone and done it--won himself a set of those nifty decorations for the shoulders--his bars as a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Forces. He received the coveted honors out at Carlsbad, New Mexico after completing training in bombardiering, aerial gunnery and dead-reckoning navigation. Then "Ken" was given time-off and enjoyed a long-awaited visit back to Hopewell. He looked dandy in his officer's uniform, and was the same likable chap who was so helpful around the church and no mean soda-slinger when he worked in the drug-store down in Pennington.

RUMOR ABOUT INJURIES TO ED SHEPPARD IS UNCONFIRMED

There's been a story around town for a couple of weeks to the effect that Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard, of the 4th Marine Division, has been injured. The report is unconfirmed, we are glad to report on good authority, and in fact, his sisters have had no such word and are at a loss to understand where the story started.

At the start, the story was that Ed had lost a finger and was back in California under treatment. Then in small-town fashion, the story began to grow and soon the loss of a hand and an arm was being mentioned. However, this is what his sister, Carolyn, stated only five or six days ago:

"When we last heard from Ed, he seemed to be in fine health. We know that he did take part in the invasion of the Marshall Islands and was later transferred to another Pacific island. In his last letter, he wrote about going in to town and having a steak dinner. He also went bowling and had enjoyed it very much. The last letter we received was dated about eight weeks ago. I know of other people who have relatives in the same division and I know they have not been getting mail for some time either. So we see no cause for alarm. We have received no reports about anything happening to Ed."

That's welcome news, and everyone hopes that later letters will bear out the same state of facts.

"Mel" Servis has flown the Atlantic so many times that it's almost like a familiar brook to him, but a return trip shortly after "D-Day" prompted New York camera photographers to make pictures of the flight crew to which he belongs; said pictures getting into the New York papers immediately.

Their plane was the first to land in New York with direct news of the "D-Day" invasion. The plane had brought back a capacity load of wounded soldiers, most of whom had previously taken part in the "softening-up" missions over France and Germany. However, "Mel" and his companions were able to report on how the British Isles took the news of the beachhead landings in Normandy.

As luck would have it, "Mel" himself was nursing an injured thumb when he arrived. He had fractured a bone in his right thumb. Where did it happen? "Mel" answered that one by saying casually, "In Scotland--there was a high wind blowing and the door of the plane slammed shut on it." Not until he was back in New York was he aware that the bone was broken. Doctors put a cast around it and "Mel," while at home, was wishing it would hurry up and mend so he "could get back over there." He is a flight engineer in the Air Transport Command, with a rank equivalent to that of a Second Lieutenant.

RIVALRY AT QUILTS

It wouldn't be Summertime if the clang of quilts and shouts of "A ringer!" were not being heard these nights. Right now, there is the keenest sort of rivalry between two teams representing the East End and the West End of town. Their matches are played out at Harry Hullfish's place every Tuesday night. Les Paul is captain for the East Enders while Orville Carkhuff runs the West End team.

The East Enders include Floyd Gray, George Clark, Bill Davis, Harry Hullfish, Sherrill Spencer, George McCandless, Hart Cromwell and John Moore. For the West Enders, there is Howard Shanks, Les Warman, Carl Smith, Orville Carkhuff, Jr., Marlin Fritz, Russ Holcombe, Sr., Horace Kane and Walt Lawyer. Spectators? Oh, yes, you can count upon Joe Drake and Sam Little being on hand to enjoy the sport.

Thus far, the East Enders seem to have the edge. On the first night of the league games, they made a clean sweep of nine games. But a week later, the West End team managed to capture five games, with four lost. Then on June 20th, the East End players took 7 of the 9 games. That was a cool night and most of the players wore plaid flannel shirts and heavy sweaters. In fact, four of them even wore hats (their wives' idea, most likely). Harry Hullfish may have to build a grandstand next, to accommodate the spectators, for this quilt league is really being taken seriously.

FRANK EGE'S DEATH CONFIRMED

The sad news about Pfc Frank N. Ege losing his life in the North African war zone has been confirmed officially. He is the second Hopewell fellow to pay the supreme sacrifice; his cousin, Irvin VanNeste, being killed while serving in the tank corps during the rout of Rommel from North Africa last year.

Frank was in a Reconnaissance squadron of the Army Air Force and is understood to have been on a transport sunk in the Mediterranean. When his parents received the word that he was missing, it was the first message in six weeks, as Frank had been completing his training in Oklahoma. He had been in the Army since Jan., 1943.

SEVERE ELECTRICAL STORMS

The weather has been tricky for the past two weeks. The farmers have been having trouble getting their hay; gardeners stand by and watch the weeds grow, while thunder and lightning storms during the night have given broken sleep to a lot of folks. There was one bang-up shower on Saturday night, June 10th. Hart Cromwell, the dairyman, lost one cow that was hit by lightning; the Sansones up at Woodsville had the same misfortune; a tree was blown down on the Pittenger farm up that way, too, and it damaged a garage roof there.

THAT "PUSHER" ENGINE

Remember hearing the clatter made by the "pusher" engine on the Reading Railroad as it went fussing and fuming up and down the tracks through Hopewell during the long hours of the night? Well, the "pusher" is still at it--only making more noise than ever, if that's possible.

It seems that the noise comes from the drive rods on the wheels, and is most noticeable when the engine isn't being bothered with a string of cars. Its chief job is to run down to Roelofs to push heavy trains around the Yardley curve and up over the Delaware bridge and on through Hopewell.

GILBERT LEMING, 91, TAKES A TRIP

Speaking of railroads, Gilbert Leming, who is 91 years old, decided recently that he'd like to visit his daughter and son-in-law out in Lincoln, Nebraska. So last week, he set out--alone--for the cross-country trip.

SPONSORS OF THIS ISSUE

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GRADUATION TIME

School goes right on, war or no war, and that means graduation exercises when June arrives. Twenty from Hopewell Borough graduated from Princeton High, including three whose diplomas were delivered to their parents, since the fellows are in the service. They are Russ "Hokoy" Holcombe, Joe McAlinden and Sheldon Embley. Special awards were won by Dick Lewis, Dorothy Titus and Bill Ashton. At Central High in Pennington, the Hopewell Township students were graduated, with Evelyn Bruno really collecting the honors. She was singled out as the most representative girl; given a prize in French and English and also for the highest standing in the class. Bob Solan, (of the Golf Club Solans) who is now in the Marines, was named as the most representative fellow and also given a history prize.

Then at the Hopewell Grammar School, another class graduated, with Jordan Bodine as its president; Tom Laird, vice-president; Eleanor Paul, secretary, and Ernest Gotthilf as treasurer.

BROTHER OF FORMER PASTOR IS WOUNDED

Word has reached Rev. and Mrs. N. Vance Johnston at Vineland that his brother, who is in Italy, has been slightly wounded and is in a hospital there. As yet, it is not known exactly how seriously he has been hurt. However, a letter written by him to his Mother since it all happened was quite optimistic in tone. He has been overseas for 18 months. Another brother is in England.

"P.W.'S" AND "C. O.'S"

At the Belle Mead Quartermaster's Depot, they now have quite a number Italian "Prisoners of War"--or at least they were prisoners of war until Italy's uncertain status changed that to some extent. A recent Associated Press gave a picture of Belle Mead these days, with all the invasion materials shipped long since, and attention being given now to "behind-the-lines" items such as bulldozers, concrete mixers, polos, cable and road-scrappers.

It's quite a plant, with a billion dollars worth of material inventoried and stored in 14 warehouses. The 893-acre tract has 45 miles of railroad track using five locomotives, 30 miles of hard-surfaced roads and 30 cranes.

At the State Village in Skillman, we hear, the services of a number of "C.O.'S" (Conscientious Objectors) are being used.

CONFUSION OVER DOCTORS

In these days when doctors are scarce and overworked, funny things are likely to happen. But the story being told of a Hopewell woman is really a classic, and it's too bad that names cannot be used.

The woman in question had declared that "I wouldn't have Dr. Minus (we'll call him that for no reason at all) to doctor a sick cat." Recently, she became ill. A phone call to her doctor's office revealed that he was not available, so word was left that another doctor should be sent. The substitute doctor arrived and the woman's husband escorted him in. The woman patient said "I don't believe I have ever met you before, Dr. _____." The visiting physician replied: "I'm not Dr. _____, I'm Dr. _____." It was none other than the man that was never to be called in even for a "sick cat." But it was too late, then.

Meanwhile, the husband, according to the story, had gone across the street to a neighbor and had said: "We had to call Dr. _____ for my wife and as long as he is over to the house, I thought you might want to get some medicine, too." To that, the reply was: "Dr. _____? Why, that isn't Dr. _____, it's Dr. _____."

Later, the patient was feeling better and when reminded that perhaps it was the medicine that had been given her by the doctor she had by mistake, the answer was: "I took very little of his medicine!"

ARTIST DIES

Laszlo DeNagy, the artist who always wore that little round, black French beret on his head, has passed on, at the age of 38. "Locksy", he was called by lots of people who couldn't get his right name. He lived on the Boswell place on the Werts-ville Road. Prior to divorce, he was the husband of Helen Boswell. In recent months he had worked at the Eastern Aircraft plant, having designed a huge display outside the factory showing a gold eagle, a "V for Victory" message and an appeal to buy war bonds. "Locksy" had been ailing for several weeks with a blood infection and a kidney condition. Then pneumonia developed and the end came.

A MOST UNUSUAL DOGGIE ROAST

Edgar Temple and his family went out to do a little fishing the other day and planned a little doggie roast to complete the outing. In fact, he took along some wood from home, along with the bag of hot-dogs that he took out of the refrigerator. Mrs. Temple asked him two or three times if he was sure he hadn't forgotten the hot dogs but Mr. Temple was sure about it.

So when it became close to eating time, Mr. Temple started the fire going, had a nice bed of coals ready and then reached for the bag of hot-dogs. When he opened it, he was dismayed to find that it contained onions! Well--was that an embarrassing moment! There wasn't much that could be done about it, however, except to pack up, drive home, cook the dogs on the kerosene stove--while trying to imagine that they tasted as good as if cooked over charcoal as a picnic supper treat.

BICYCLE STARTLES RAILROADERS

Deciding to send a bicycle from Trenton to Hopewell on the "dinky", Ye Editor took it to the Warren Street station. The station agent was so startled that he said: "How do you spell bicycle--it's been so long since I had to make out a tag for one." And when the bike arrived in Hopewell, Fred Blackwell commented that it looked like a good bike. Asked if he had taken a spin on it, he replied: "No, but if I'd had a telegram to deliver, I might have."

KEEP THE CHANGE

Margaret Hullfish went to the Post-Office to mail a letter to her brother, Ken. She laid down a five-dollar bill to pay the air-mail charges of 16 cents, and then stepped to the mail-box section to get incoming mail. To her surprise, she found a letter from Ken awaiting her. Her eagerness to read it made her forget all about the change due her at the counter and she walked out and back to H.A. Smith's for her afternoon's work. A little later, she was handed an envelope which contained her \$4.84 in change, it being sent down to her by the Postmaster.

"Fast service, that," Margaret remarked. "I mail him a letter, and get a letter from him a few minutes later--even if it did almost cost me \$5 to send mine."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Arch Litzen, A.M.M.2/c, keeps the letters coming even though he's aboard a carrier somewhere in the Pacific. He wrote one on Memorial Day, prompting him to speculate as to "what kind of a parade you people are having back home, or is it another working-day?" He said he regretted that he must continue to be non-committal when it came to news. He also expressed interest in the choice of a new pastor for Calvary Baptist Church.

George Kenneth Hullfish, MMS/c, is believed to be at Pearl Harbor, working with a ship repair unit. In a V-mail letter, he explains that he cannot name the spot but goes on to say: "This is a very nice place and the barracks and food are fine." He said that the "Hopewell News" had enabled him to find out where a friend is located and perhaps they would be able to get together soon. He also stated that "I never knew until I went into the service what mail and news from home means to a boy overseas."

Fred VanLiew is now a Corporal in the 240th A.G.F. Band (Army Ground Force) at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where he finds it "plenty hot." By good luck, he was at home a short time ago when his brother, Harold, A.O.M.2/c, (note also that he's been upped in grade) was home on liberty. Both attended church, on a Sunday when there were four fellows in uniform there. The others were Lieut. Kenneth Burroughs, in from Carlisle, New Mexico, and due to report at Lincoln, Nebraska, for further training; and Pvt. Franklin V. D. Hill, up from Parris Island, S.C. where he is getting U.S. Marines training.

Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland, in the Field Artillery at Camp Hood, Texas, has been expecting orders to embark. He finds that Camp Hood is "a miserable muddy hole" when it rains. Speaking of rain, he says "When it rains here it doesn't just mess around about it; it just starts and pours for hours on end." As to food--and Norman enjoys his food, he says: "Our chow here is nothing to write home about." To him, war has no glamour for as he expresses it, "It may be just an adventure to some of the younger fellows but to us married men it is just time that is spent away from our homes and careers."

Cpl. Henry Orr and his Infantry outfit can be found these days on the island of Maui, the second largest of the Hawaiian Island group. On that island are about 50,000 people, less than half as many as in the city of Trenton. So that's another spot in the Pacific where the "Hopewell News" gets read.

Pfc. Colin A. McBurney is out at Lincoln, Nebraska, being assigned to the Second Air Force. He recently completed the aerial gunnery course at Harlingen Field, Texas.

Harris "Buck" Runyon has been around town of late, enjoying his Army leave. Donald Selbie, Jr., a Lieut. in the Army and stationed in India, has been trying to catch up with Alan F. Hart but unable as yet to locate him over there. Aside from that, Selbie and another officer had quite an experience when out in a jeep that met up with a leopard. Selbie wanted to take a shot with his rifle but the Captain dissented, as they had no protection if the leopard charged at them. So the Captain tooted the horn and the leopard eased itself out of sight. Pfc. Edwin W. Savidge has been released by the Army, returning from Casper, Wyoming, where he was working in Army air photography, as a technician.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Cpl. Charles "Reg" Hurley sends some interesting photos from Hawaii, one showing American troops hiking over rugged, steep country and on it "Reg" wrote: "Snapped during one of our hikes. You can see by this that it is not all sand and palms here." While the soil where he is, is mostly sand, he finds it is rich, and so they have tomato plants growing. "Reg" says in that connection:

"For the past four months they have been bearing. As long as we can get water to them, they keep right on giving for us. I have not kept count of the number of pickings we have taken but do believe at least 25 or 30 and still going strong. We pick a lot of them green and let them ripen in the darkness of a box. What do we do with them? We have a little snack about three or four times a week. You see we are only about 20 feet from the ocean and marvelous fishing, so we catch fish, build a fire and have fried fish, potatoes and fried tomatoes. Maybe you think they are not good!

"Today we had a big inspection," his letter continued. "A few medals were given out and I managed to get a couple. The ones I got were the good-conduct medal, Asiatic campaign, first-class gunner and expert rifleman. They are not very important, I guess, but they make a person feel good and that he is doing his best under the conditions in which he finds himself. All of us want to get in and finish up the dirty work but it just so happens that it is not our turn as yet.

"We have a chaplain that comes out to our position every other week. We have a very nice service under the blue skies and take turns in leading the singing of the grand old hymns. Today was his Sunday not to be here and you can be well assured that we missed him."

DOINGS IN THE CHURCH

Our new pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, tells us that he likes Hopewell a lot; and Hopewell people have really taken to Mr. and Mrs. Gray in a big way. He is getting a grasp on the scope of the work, making lots of personal calls and preaching sermons that create a keen desire to hear some more. Meanwhile, they are getting their home set to rights.

The funeral of Laszlo DeNagy, the artist, was the first call for that type of pastoral service since Mr. Gray arrived here. His earlier work as a student-pastor again served him well, for it was not a new experience for him to conduct a funeral. In fact, he had been in charge of twenty or more in New Hampshire during the past three years.

Also, Mr. Gray was pressed into service to sing in a Men's Chorus as a feature of the Fathers' Day program on Sunday, June 18th. The men sang "Praise Ye The Father" by Gounod, and it was quite a treat. The congregation hopes to hear more of Mr. Gray's singing a little later. Others who warbled were Scott Dansberry, Lloyd Drake, Harry McCandless and Clifford Higgins. Mrs. Gray, meanwhile, has been getting acquainted, attending meetings of the women's groups and like her husband, displaying a marvelous memory for names and faces.

The church gave them a reception that attracted about 125 persons. There was a program that included a piano number by Harry McCandless, solo numbers by Rev. Fuss, pastor of the Methodist Church; readings by Mrs. Joseph Baldwin; a cornet-trombone duet by Paul Ashton and his Father; talks by Mr. Fuss, Dr. Jurgi and Mrs. Ginter representing the Presbyterian Church; and by Deacons Edward Jones and Walter Housel and Trustee Marvin Vandewater. Then several gifts were presented, including useful articles for their home, some cash and countless jars and cans of vegetables, fruits and jellies for their pantry shelves. Refreshments were served. Mr. Gray made a happy little speech, in which he said that he couldn't entirely agree with Robert Louis Stevenson who wrote "To travel hopefully is better than to arrive" as his reception in Hopewell had proven otherwise. He also revealed that he had told his wife as they drove toward Hopewell that "I hope we'll like it so well that we'll never want to move again." Their work in New Hampshire had made them fall in love with that State, he continued, and they had thought they would never find a place as nice, but again he was mistaken. Remarking that the relationship between a pastor and his people is one of the most unique things in the world, Mr. Gray added: "So many gracious things are done by the people for their minister, so many little acts of kindness, and I only hope we can repay you for the kindnesses shown and that I can count upon your loyal support." A guest register was signed by those present and turned over to the Grays later by Miss Sadie Dansberry, chairman of the reception committee.

The Children's Day program on June 11th was outstanding this year, being given at an evening service. It included a play in which characters stepped out of a huge Bible and enacted Biblical scenes. Mrs. Margaret Lawson coached the cast and did an excellent job, and the same goes for the people who participated.

Calvary Baptists of Hopewell again produced the largest delegation at the annual meeting of the Central Baptist Association, held this year in New Brunswick. When the count was taken, there were 27 Hopewell people present! It was an all-day meeting with a fine program. Our new pastor, Mr. Gray, enjoyed the opportunity of meeting other neighboring Baptist pastors.

Right now, plans for the Community Vacation Bible School are being completed. It is to be held in the Baptist Church basement, and the other churches are aiding by providing additional teachers. It looks as if it may be the biggest ever held in town. It will run for two weeks, starting July 3rd.

HAFFENINGS AROUND TOWN

Mrs. Ethel Latto has been elected as Treasurer of the Presbyterian Church, a position held by her late husband, Harry Latto, for a number of years.....The Eagle Bakery is getting a fresh coat of paint.....The story is told of a prominent Hopewell man who went to the Library and asked for a book which he called "Three *Girls* Grief in Brooklyn," although the book he meant is really called "A Tree Grows In Brooklyn.".....Weart's swimming pool is still in a torn-up state, that is, the western end has been deepened to some extent.

Betty Marie Dye, daughter of the Lamonte Dyes, is engaged to Pvt. Bradford Golden, of Pennington.....Hopewell's troop of Boy Scouts camped out for a week at Three Bridges, making the best of a week during which it rained a large part of the time.....Hopewell's telephone switchboard just will not accomodate all the telephones that are sought by local residents, but equipment to expand the facilities just isn't available. In fact, New Jersey has 52,000 people who have requests for phone service on file.

Percy Hill, father of Franklin Hill, has returned from the hospital.....Donald VanLieu, six years old, underwent an emergency operation at St. Francis Hospital, being critically ill because of an appendix condition.....Two people went away happy the other day after one had asked at the bakery for buttermilk. She was told that they had none, whereupon Mrs. George Green, of West Broad Street, who also was in the store, spoke up. She said "I have a gallon of it at home, I've just churned." The would-be customer lost no time in completing arrangements to obtain a supply.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The father of the family was in the Army and had been overseas for more than a year. His two small sons prayed for a baby sister, and their Mother could not talk them out of it.

"It would be such a big surprise for Daddy when he comes home," they insisted.

"I do not like these jackets,"

Said a Wave who was rather thin.

"But," said her friend, "you get out of them
Just exactly what you put in."

From Australia comes the story of the kangaroo which, after pausing several times to scratch her stomach, yanked two baby kangaroos from her pouch and thrashed them soundly for eating crackers in bed.

Dentist: "I'm sorry, but I'm all out of gas."

Girl in chair: "Ye gods! Do dentists pull that old stuff, too?"

She: "Thanks for the hug."

Seabee: "The prossuro was all mine."

A colored lad in the American Army found himself involved in a game of poker with some British soldiers.

"I'll bet one pound," said the Britisher.

The American studied his four aces, then said:

"I dunno how you all counts your money, but I'll jes raise you to one ton."

IN CLOSING

And so we come to the close of another issue--the 23rd since the "News" had its start. I've tried as usual to offer a variety of things, and a wide variety of news items about people that I think you know and will be interested in hearing about. It all adds up to this: Hopewell, your old home town, will be the same Hopewell that you left when you went into the service. To that, I want to add that you'll also find when you return to Hopewell, that the home town and your friends here will look to you to be your old self--perhaps more mature, more thoughtful, more concerned about doing things for the welfare of others. If it should be otherwise, many might feel that the price paid for winning the war was too great.

Best of luck to you. Write when you have time to tell me how you're doing.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

VOL. II, No. 10

Hopewell, N. J., July 17, 1944

24th Issue

AIR-MAIL CARRIES THE "NEWS"

To a score or more of those on the mailing list of the "Hopewell News," this issue will appear to be decidedly different. For copies are being run off on thin paper, printed on one side only, and sent by the fast planes of the U.S. Army and Navy to the far corners of the globe. It's an experiment--an attempt to speed up the "News" for the sake of those who are several thousand miles from home. If the fellows on the ships or islands out there in the Pacific, or fulfilling their duties in England, France or Italy; India, China or where-are-you, like the Air-Mail Edition, it probably will become a regular thing. It did seem as if something needed to be accomplished to bring the home-town a bit closer--and to keep the "News" as fresh and up-to-the-minute as many of the letters that get to their destinations by fast Air-Mail service almost before the ink is dry. The reaction of those who get the Air-Mail edition will decide what's done hereafter.

VACATION SCHOOL GOES OVER BIG

Who said that children don't like school? The Community Vacation Church School has proved otherwise, for about 90 attended the classes held in Calvary Baptist Church for the past two weeks. And more than 80 of that number qualified for certificates thru attending at least eight of the ten morning sessions. For the teachers, however, it has been a different story. Enough help to share the load properly just could not be lined up, despite the fact that the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist Churches were cooperating in sponsoring the school. However, the training given and the way the youngsters responded convinced the staff that it was more than worthwhile.

Aside from the unusual size of the enrollment, the School was unique in that colored children were invited and welcome, and a number were on hand. In fact, five children walked every day from Crusher Road and back, in order to attend. Of course, like all schools, some odd things happened, such as the sudden appearance of a dog in the Beginners' Department. Another day, a rabbit owned by Doc Stults went hopping by the church window to divert attention. In the Junior Dept., they produced a Palestine village; using newspaper pulp, they made a relief map of Palestine. Mrs. Herbert Jones had charge of the Primary Dept. and Mrs. Dean H. Ashton took care of the Beginners. The new pastor of the Baptist Church, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, entered enthusiastically into the work and assisted with the Junior Group. The Beginners' produced a scrapbook and sent it to Don VanLiou who had planned to attend but was in the hospital (appendicitis). Mrs. Horace Wyckoff had 38 in her Junior Dept., the largest group.

BAGGY AT THE KNEES

When a tailor is unable to get steam up just before a holiday, a lot of folks inevitably will look a bit wrinkled. So it was over the Fourth of July, all because Jim Di Iorio's boiler in his shop back of Cutter's drugstore decided to open up at the seam. Imagine it--a shop full of work, the holiday on a Tuesday and then the boiler acts up on the Friday before. Jim tried it out again on Saturday and concluded it was useless, so all he could do was to stand by and explain as best he could to his customers.

Phone calls to New York brought indefinite promises, and meanwhile more pressing jobs stacked up on the counter. Then Jim got busy with Tronton and had the brook repaired there. But that wasn't the end of it. His dryer kicked up and then the gas-kot went bad. However, good old "H.A.'s" came through with a repair job on that and finally the shop got back "in the groove." Finally, Jim caught up to himself--or almost.

But maybe the breakdown served some purpose at that. For it did a little toward accustoming customers to waiting, and that's going to be in order from July 24 to 29th, for Jim has decided to take a vacation--his first in 35 years, he says.

PARVIN STRYKER WOUNDED

(2)

Word has come that Parvin Stryker, of Blawneburg, has been injured--hit in the arm but his own letter to his parents minimizes the injury. He has been serving with the 4th Marines Division, recently mentioned in news dispatches as engaged in the seizure of that all-important island of Saipan, 1500 miles from Tokyo and one of the key-approaches to Jap mainland. It's the same outfit in which Ed Sheppard is serving. Parvin's letter indicated that he expected to be moved back to a base hospital for further treatment.

BIG SOCIAL EVENT

At first glance, it looked as if "Doc" Pierson had a very busy doctor's office--with 100 patients or more out on the lawn waiting their turn. But it wasn't that way at all. Dr. and Mrs. Theodore A Pierson were observing their 50th wedding anniversary and it was quite THE social event of the Summer. Their relatives and friends gathered for the occasion, presenting innumerable gifts, including more than 200 yellow roses (symbolic of a golden anniversary). A caterer was on hand to serve, and with ideal weather, the affair made quite an impression.

"Doc" still is active as a physician, and has spent his lifetime in Hopewell. In earlier days, he was quite a ball player and kicked up plenty of dust around second base. In fact, he looked like big-league talent but turned his ambitions in other directions. He is still remembered for his scrappy brand of baseball and his ability to pull "trick stuff," just what the home fans liked when the score was close and somebody just had to start something. In later years, he has been a great follower of the game and promoter of local teams. About three years ago, the Piersons were "written up" in the Ladies' Home Journal as a typical American family. They have two sons, Lieut. Col. J. Reginald Pierson, chief of the medical division at the Fort Warren Hospital, Wyoming; and T.A. Jr., employed in Trenton.

DON SELBIE IN RAID ON JAP MAINLAND

Lieut. Don Selbie belongs to the crew of a plane that recently took a crack at the Japanese homeland. He had been in India and apparently the assignment started from that general area. It was a bombing mission but Selbie is not permitted, of course, to report to any extent. He did reveal that he almost got shot in the seat of his pants--and it wouldn't have been funny either--for one of the three hits on the plane shattered the plane seat that he ordinarily occupies. Fortunately, Don had left it a few seconds earlier so he could observe the effects of the bombing.

SUMMER SERVICES TO START

Union services start next Sunday. The first two are in the Presbyterian Church the middle two, Aug. 6 and 13th in the Baptist Church and the last two in August in the Methodist Church. The respective pastors will be in charge. For Rev. Raymond A. Gray, the new pastor in town, it means a split vacation, but on the other hand it is expected that many residents will be anxious to hear him when he preaches on Aug. 6 and 13th.

COMMENTS ON NEW MINISTER

While Rev. Raymond A. Gray has only been in Hopewell a few weeks, folks have had time enough to size him up. He and Mrs. Gray have made a host of friends, and for the benefit of the fellows who are away in military service, it seems in order to repeat a few of the comments, for they really tell the story. Here are a few:

"The Baptists certainly have a hustler!"

"He surely puts something into his sermons."

"That man can preach--watch him go places."

"I believe he can call nearly every kid in town by their first name."

"Fine wife, too."

"He's good fun, although serious about his work, and just the right sort."

WHAT A SEARCH!

You've heard of "looking for a needle in a haystack?" Well, it's the same idea when it comes to looking for a lost ring in a swimming pool. A Hopewell youngster had that sad experience in the children's pool at the Quarry on Fourth of July. Tears were shed but that didn't help and it was given up as lost. However, the pool was being drained three days later and in sweeping it, Dave Lowe discovered the ring. It was delivered to the girl's home. That night, Dave Lowe was rewarded with a gift of five dollars.

GARDEN WOES

Ed VanArsdale had a lima bean tragedy in his garden this Summer, and he has been ribbed about it until it's hardly funny. He planted/row of pole limas and when they were big enough, tied them to the poles. But runners didn't develop. Realizing that the worst had happened, Ed got up one morning at 5 A.M., pulled out the poles, cleared his onion bed and planted a row of real pole limas. The others were bush beans.

THE STAMP THAT DISAPPEARED

It's no joke when you pay \$5 for a Federal auto tax stamp and then promptly lose it. Marvin Conover had just that experience. He was in town for the Baptist Church covered dish supper-business meeting. He was sitting in his car, one foot out on the ground, while handling a folder in which he had placed the five-dollar stamp. A little later he decided to take a look at the new stamp. But it wasn't there. Then he thought he remembered seeing something flutter to the ground. So a search began. He even backed up his car and got out a flashlight, but no sight of the stamp. That was odd. The next day, Mr. Gray, who had aided in the search, made a further search but to no avail. When Sunday came, it was still on Marvin's mind, even while he sat in church. His fingers happened to stray down to his trouser cuffs, and presto! there reposed the missing \$5 stamp.

ICE CREAM STORIES

If you like ice cream like I like ice cream, I shouldn't be telling these stories--unless you have a supply of it nearby. But here goes:

J. Russell Riley had a meeting at the church to attend so he took his wife to the home of a relative. When the meeting was over, Mr. Riley decided he would take an ice cream cone to his wife. He purchased it, hurried home and found the house all locked up. The cone was melting rapidly. He thought his wife might have gone to bed so he tried to arouse her. By that time, the melting of the ice cream was really growing disastrous. When it was only a shadow of its former self, Mr. Riley remembered that he had taken his wife elsewhere to spend the evening.

The second story: One night recently six farmers who had been out baling hay walked into Ewing's Corner Store. They ordered ice cream sundaes. Then they ordered a second round. In fact, when they got ready to pay the bill, the six of them had consumed 19 sundaes. A number of Hopewell ladies who had been down working for the Red Cross stared a little, forgetting that it's hot and dusty work in the wheat fields these days.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland has been on the springboard for a number of days, being at an Embarkation Center, after moving up from Camp Hood, Texas. He has been able to get back home at least three times on short leave. He is in the Field Artillery.....Lieut. Harold Temple has moved from Turner Field, Georgia, to California... Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, the paratrooper, was home from Camp MacKall, N.C. for a few days and then expected to be at Fort Benning, Ga. for about three weeks, where some new men in his Battery were to get some special training. Erwin has made nine parachute jumps, but when it comes to describing how it feels, the words just cannot be found, he says. However, he thinks there is nothing quite equal to it.

J. Orville Holcombe, of Columbia Avenue, isn't going to forget the heat he experienced in India several months ago before he flew in a plane "over the hump" in to China. It was 130 in the shade in India, but when they went up a few thousand feet in the clouds, it was almost cold enough to freeze.....Cpl. Henry F. Orr, is serving as Company Clerk for his Infantry outfit on the island of Maui, one of the larger ones in the Hawaiians. A dormant volcano's orator is a special point of interest and a spot loved by tourists in former days. Henry used to work in the shipping department at "H.A.'s" but nowadays he's kept busy with records and typing of a military nature.....Pfc. George T. Everitt, doing duty at an Arizona prisoner-of-war camp, is able to live in a cabin about seven miles from Phoenix, where he and his wife call it home since her arrival. It's in the "Valley of the Sun" with a grapefruit grove 20 feet from their back door, and a fig tree also nearby. When George gets a three-day pass, they plan to visit the Pacific Coast.

It sounds very much as if Robert I. Hill, Fl/c has been seeing action in the South Pacific. He writes "Things are running along in the same routine again now but we were pretty busy a few days ago. We can't expect to do it all so we more or less wait our turn, you might say, and do our part.".....George "Ken" Hullfish, MMS/c, who is at Pearl Harbor, reports that he "just missed" finding Aroh Litzen the last time Arch's ship (a carrier) was there. Ken also hoped he might be able to locate "Reg" Hurley not too far away.....Bill Wyckoff, SMS/c reports from Italy that "I am well and in the best of spirits. I have loads I'd like to write about. Haven't heard from any of the local fellows. I imagine they are kept too busy to do much writing."....Bill Boezer, who was at Lansing, Mich. is now in Colorado with the Army Air Corps.....Dewey McLaughlin is somewhere in the Pacific...James Brogenzer left July 28 for Keesler Field, Miss., having enlisted some time ago before he was..... Bill Bodine has started work at the Univ. of Buffalo in the Army Special Training Reserve program, being accepted for the Air Corps when he is 18 this fall...Colin A. McBurney, at Clovis, New Mexico, finds it's a hot State "but camp is swell and the people of the town are very nice." He is studying B-29's to serve as a central fire control gunner.

CHURCH DOINGS

John Vandewater was elected an Honorary Trustee of Calvary Baptist Church at a meeting held June 30th. Lamont Dye was named a trustee, filling a place held by Leon Hill who asked to be relieved after serving 18 years as chairman. George M. Savidge was named financial secretary with C. Lloyd Drake as his assistant. It was the first meeting at which Pastor Gray presided and he kept it smoothly running.... A Sunday School picnic committee has been named, with Margaret Hullfish as chairman.Sadie Dansberry was loaned to the Methodists on a recent Sunday morning, to play the organ for them....Recent note on church bulletin board: "Ah, how good it feels: the hand of an old friend."....Reorganizing, the Board of Trustees elected Fred Van-Liew as chairman and continued Marvin Vandewater as secretary....With dry weather, the church lawn has suffered but Russell Riley brought down his garden hose and sprinkler to provide a drink....The pastor says it was lucky that his wife answered the phone when a church member phoned to ask whether they liked "smearcase." Yes, they do....Former Pastor N. Vance Johnston visited Hopewell for two or three days while he attended meetings at Princeton for pastors....Mr. Gray spoke at the State Village recently with an audience of 300 or more...Fine attendance at church and Sunday School continues. Vacation School graduation also brought out good crowd of 140.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

They're enlarging the receiving platform at the tomato canning factory. A railroad car was loaded recently with 4,000 cases of last year's crop for Army use... The Ginter home stands unoccupied, since they left for Seattle, Wash. where Captain Ginter, Army chaplain, is on duty....John Cromwell, the moaning-saxophone virtuoso, is at Maple Crest, N.Y. in the Catskills with an orchestra of Princeton High fellows.Harry McGandless has had orders to report for Army training on July 26th. He has given up his American Store job so he can enjoy a little rest...A new diving board is going to be installed at the Quarry where a water show is to be held at the end of this month....The screen door inside the Winter enclosure at the Post-Office entrance seems paradoxical (you know, incredible yet true)...They have an Army Air Force inspector at "H.A.'s" who makes a hobby of collecting envelopes and stationery having the insignia of military units upon it....A lot of excitement and disturbance on Railroad Place the other morning when a resident who wouldn't want his name mentioned fell asleep in the street in the early A.M. after a "few too many."....Jimmy Hall goes into the Navy within a few days....Bill Ashton has passed his physical for A-12 training....Charles Childs is home from the hospital after an operation..... Don Allen, of Center Street, likes long bike rides, and recently pedaled to Milford, Pa., a round-trip of 80 miles, no less...Silas Terry, 75, died of burns received while working at the Hopewell Valley Golf Club. He was taking a pipe apart and used kerosene on a joint. Apparently it was gasoline for it flared up and set fire to a can of it nearby. Terry picked it up to throw it out and the flames came back over him. He was treated, then collapsed and died after lingering quite some time.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Little Richard: "Mother, may I have a nickel for the old man who is crying outside?"

Mother: "Yes, dear but what is the old man crying about?"

Little Richard: "He's crying, 'Peanuts, five cents a bag!'"

There once was a lady named Perkins,
Who had a great fondness for gherkins;
She went to a tea
And ate twenty-three,
Which pickled her internal workins.

Cooks knead dough and I need dough
And little chefs need ovens;
I need a lil' oven too--
How about you!

IN CLOSING

I saw a publication the other day in which the main article was entitled "We must not slow down"--and down at the bottom of the page was an item stating "This is our last issue until Sept. 1." Well, the "Hopewell News" isn't going to take a vacation for unless all of you fellows in the service have conspired against me, you like to be handed an envelope in which it is contained. And sponsors continue to supply what it takes to cover the cost. Sponsors of this issue are: Mrs. Howard Larason, Postmaster McAlinden, Mrs. Margaret Lawson and a former resident, Glenn Cox. Best of luck.

DEAN H. ASHTON

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 11

Hopewell, N.J., August 7, 1944

25th Issue.

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Most everybody realizes that a new Pastor in a town just isn't able to do everything, despite the best of intentions, at the "first crack out of the box." That's the way it has been thus far with the Rev. Raymond A. Gray, of Calvary Baptist Church--the genial "new man in town." But he has prepared a special message to those in the military service. It follows.

Dear Fellows:

I know this isn't exactly a personal letter--the kind you all like to receive, but I welcome this opportunity to say hello to you. I came to Hopewell two months ago (June 1st, to be exact) with the very firm intention to write to the service men from the church just as quickly as possible. Well, after two months, I have not deviated from that intention--it's just that I have not had sufficient freedom to accomplish it. There have been more demands on my time than I had anticipated--moving, getting settled, calling (that I might get acquainted with the fine folk of Hopewell) and two weeks devoted to the Community Vacation Church School. These few lines, however, are not to take the place of that personal letter which I plan to write to each of you. This is just to let you know that we of the home church have not forgotten you, and the typewriter keys will be clicking away again before too long.

I don't feel that I know you very well--and yet I know a lot about most of you. Some have been in Hopewell briefly since I came and I have chatted with some of you at the door of the Church, and have wished for time to discover what types of fellows you are behind your smiling eyes and firm handshakes. I have met the parents of many of you, and through them have come to know you a little better. But I still feel like a stranger in your midst--and the only way to overcome it is through personal contact. So I hope to write soon to you and hope you will write to me. Tell me about yourself and whatever experiences can pass the censor. Then when you come back to Hopewell, we will already be acquainted.

Many friends have expressed to me how much they miss the young men from the church--your presence, your participation in activities and your enthusiasm. While you are away, we hope you will feel free to call on us for anything we can do for you. I personally will endeavor to perform any service you wish me to render.

The Church remembers you in its prayer every Sunday morning when minister and people pray together a Prayer For Service Men, and you are constantly in our thoughts. We're proud of you and what you're doing; we're proud of the advancements you've made; and we're proud of the kind of guys you are.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,
(Signed) RAYMOND A. GRAY

IN GOOD SHAPE

The suspense concerning Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard, reported by the "rumor factory" as losing a finger, is eased by a brief letter sent by him directly from Saipan--the island only 1,500 miles from Japan and the Philippines. Ed went ashore with the Fourth Marines Division, and his Ordnance Company has undoubtedly been heard from aplenty since that time. Ed wrote as follows:

"Well, things have been pretty hot here so I didn't have a chance to write before. As you must know by now, I am on Saipan and have been for the last three weeks (his letter dated July 5th). It's a good size island with several fair-sized towns. There is very little I can tell you and there is less yet here to write about except that things were plenty hot for a few days and I caught plenty of shellfire, but I am still in good shape."

More recently, the news dispatches have stated that the same Marine Divisions that seized Saipan have taken Tinian, going into action after a 10-day rest period, following 24 days spent in clearing the Japs out of caves, etc.

CALLED INTO SERVICE

"Jimmy" HALL will be a long time forgiving the person whose last-minute decision sent Jimmy into the Army, instead of the Navy as anticipated. Some time back he tried to enlist in the Navy but didn't make the grade. However, he expressed the same preference when Selective Service sent him for the usual exam at Camden and he was told that his wish could be granted. But, to his dismay, he found that the arrangements were otherwise when he reported at Pennington.

In the same group was Harry McCandless and Garrett Cenover, Jr. With the departure of Harry, the Baptist Sunday School loses its pianist as well as one more from the church choir. In fact, the choir had a doggie roast-farewell party for Harry at the home of C. Lloyd Drake two days before he departed, with Harry as the guest of honor. Garrett Cenover, Jr. had been living in recent months near Stanhope, N.J., to be near his job in a plant that produces mining machinery.

DOCTORS TAKEN ILL

With quantities of pills and liquid medicine on tap, it hasn't been possible for some of the town's doctors to keep in shape of late. After all, even a doctor is entitled to feel bad, just like anyone else. Dr. O'Neill had a set-back recently, then Dr. Stults, the veterinarian was taken to the hospital, followed by Dr. Swertfeger. All have been terribly busy, but it seemed odd that three should be hit at almost the same time.

KEEPING UP TO DATE

In these days when the pace is pretty swift, it's no cinch to keep abreast of modern developments. Consider what happened to George Diles--from "up on the mountain"--just the other day. He stepped in at a farmhouse while wheat in a nearby field was being out with a combine. "I see they're getting the wheat out," George commented. A little later, he noticed a truck coming out of the field, with bags of grain in it. That was too much for George, who exclaimed: "Good God! They've got it thrashed already!"

BUILD THEIR OWN CHAPEL

Out of the horrors of war there comes some things, some decisions, that are important in the lives of individuals. Edward Esche, who is somewhere in the Pacific, recently joined with others in his group in building their own chapel for church services. When he wrote to friends about it, he intimated that they might not be inclined to believe it, as he was not "great shakes" at church going in the past. That's the kind of resolve that often gives a fellow a new appreciation of life in general and changes his entire outlook.

ASSIGNED TO SUPER-FORTRESS

Pfc. Colin A. McBurney is now a Harvard man--that is, he's stationed at Harvard, Nebraska. He is getting trained on B-29's, those Super-Fortresses that really do a big job. Colin is an Aerial Gunner but they also are taught to serve as an armorer and maintenance man, so he can get busy if a gun breaks down or a turret stops. And a job of bomb-leading also can be done if the ground crew isn't large enough when wanted. Colin believes that his Bomb Squadron has made its "last stop" before going across the pond. Once they are accustomed to the planes and make a few flights, it is expected that the crews will get their ships for the take-off that will carry them to an overseas base.

LONG STAY IN AFRICA

With "Bushtown, Africa" as his base, T/Sgt. Clarence H. Runyon has covered Africa and the Middle East until he feels that he knows the air routes in that part of the world far better than he knows the highways in New Jersey. Clarence has been in Africa since before the African invasion in 1942. As a matter of fact, he has completed the allotted tour of duty and should get a furlough but he finds that it is the old story that his services are essential and his health still satisfactory, so he stays on the job.

As a matter of fact, Clarence was in the hospital late in June because one of these African mosquitoes took a good bite, and that can be serious business. However, he was released at the time of writing, July 5.

Being in the Air Transport Command, his job is to expedite supplies and planes to combat areas. It affords him an opportunity to do a lot of travelling. For instance, he writes that he received his first copy of the "News" just before his departure from his permanent base through all parts of Africa, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and India. He said he read it "While we were flying along up in the sky, where it is so peaceful." When he first went out there, it was pretty rugged but today the spot operates as one of the largest air-fields in the world. In travelling, he finds he still gets confused about the different money systems: pounds and shillings, francs, piastres in Egypt and over in India, the currency is rupees and annas. The good old American dollar is rarely seen, as it is not legal tender there except at the Post Office and the Finance office.

Yet Clarence sums it all up this way: "We can't find too much fault for we have a comparatively decent life with the exception of tropical diseases and hot weather. We have a wonderful beach where we can swim the year round and our living conditions are much better than I expected to find in foreign service." Yet there is one odd situation--as long as Clarence has been in foreign service, he has never met anyone he knew in civilian life. However, the "News" has revealed to him "more about the whereabouts of the various boys of Hopewell than I ever knew before."

SUMMER RECREATION

Those hot Summer nights make "Doc" Pierson's shuffleboard layout the centre of attraction for a sizeable group. The lights go on above the court almost every night and there's no telling when a night's play may end. "Doc" Pierson ranks as one of the best and Mrs. Pierson is pretty clever at it, too. Others know how to put them right in there, too, including William Cerbett and Howard Larson, although almost any one of the 25 or 30 who play at intervals is liable to pull a surprise and have a "big night." Ed VanArsdale laid out the "diamond" and waxed the concrete surface and "Doc" Pierson had the benches re-painted, so it's quite a colorful recreation spot.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Lawrence B. Hurley, a Tec/4 and serving with a Medical Battalion, has gone overseas, after moving to an Embarkation point from Nashville, Tenn.....Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland also is understood to be moving over the Atlantic, his Field Artillery battalion being shifted from Texas. Norman was fortunate enough to get home two or three times while awaiting actual sailing orders.

Pvt. John "Jack" F. VanLieu had a few days at home recently, his second visit back since he went into service many months ago. At present, he's at Bowman Field, Kentucky, with an AAF base unit. Jack describes himself as a "freight shifter.....Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell was another who was able to get home recently, he and his wife arriving from Camp McCain, Mississippi, one morning about 3 A. M.....George Keppel, serving with a gun crew in the Armed Guard aboard a merchant ship, landed home after an absence of six months. He flew in from the Pacific coast....Hartwell Vanney, has arrived in England.

Dewey McLaughlin, Jr., who hadn't been heard from in 11 weeks, sent a letter that arrived late in July. He is in the Navy, serving on a destroyer in the Pacific. Mail reaches him infrequently also, apparently only when a tanker comes to re-fuel the destroyer.....Robert I. Hill, F 1/o, writing in that vague style that is typical of the Pacific fleet for obvious reasons, said under date of July 7 that "At present things are more or less routine with us, but then we can't expect to do it all, so we more or less wait our turn, you might say." He also mentioned that "We were pretty busy a few days ago." He said he had a swell turkey dinner on the 4th of July.....Lieut. Bertha Sheppard, an Army nurse serving in Italy, usually hears about once a week from her brother, Ed, who is far out in the Pacific, except when he's in combat. Bill Bedine is now at the Univ. of Buffalo, being in the Army Specialized Training program as he is still under 18.

The censor worked out on a brief letter written by Arch Litzen, AMM 2/c, right at the point where Arch said "I move around so much out here in the Pacific that the only time we get any mail is when we catch up (censored)." Then he spoke of Vernon Temple, also on duty in the Pacific, and Arch commented: "I have reason to believe he is doing O.K. We've taken on supplies from a number of ships of his type and the men all appear to be O.K." Then he added: "Our air group (Arch is on a carrier) has been out here a number of months and has been very successful. After a few more months we will undoubtedly disband."

Pvt. Donald Dilts writes that the "News" "is one paper that always comes through and it gives you more news than you can ever receive in a letter." He continues: "I am sorry I haven't written before but have been very busy at the front. I am in a tank now and it is a swell outfit even though they do keep us kinda' busy. Well, I got to see Rome for a few hours and have seen many interesting places."

CHURCH DOINGS

Union services are now in progress, giving our pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, the first two weeks of his vacation. The first two services were held in the Presbyterian Church, being followed by two in the Baptist Church and the last two in the Methodist Church....Like the letter-carrier who took a walk on his vacation, Pastor Gray preached in the Flemington Baptist Church on July 30th....The Sunday School room and other parts of the church have been improved by various jobs done by Walter Housel....Too busy with other tasks, Mr. Gray couldn't do much with the flower garden in which Rev. N. Vance Johnston, former pastor, took such pride, but nevertheless a few handsome roses have bloomed.....The pastor admits that it was fortunate when his wife answered the phone and a thoughtful member asked if the Grays liked smerchase. He likes it but he didn't know it by that name....An invitation to go on a fishing trip resulted in the Pastor bringing home four fish, while his face was really red with good old Jersey sunburn....Dry weather has scorched the church lawn, but lawns in town generally have suffered the same fate....Big plans in the making for Fall activities in the church, Mr. Gray being a man with lots of ideas.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Firemen are getting ready for their carnival alongside Lamson's garage.... The Borough is thinking about enlarging the Honor Roll standing next to the bank, as new additions to the list are overcrowding it....The fuel tanks at Hill's lumberyard have been given a coat of aluminum paint....Bob Ashton, who now lives near San Diego, California, has entertained several Hopewell fellows and welcomes all who happen to be nearby. He lives at 1260 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach, Calif.....One hundred natives of Puerte Rico are due at the Calco plant, Bound Brook, being hired for six months to ease the labor shortage at that plant.....A box of horse-meat at the railroad station, purchased by a nearby resident to feed to dogs, gave strong evidence that it didn't belong there.....Percy Leigh's home is expanding on all sides, the reef included....Bill Ashton has gone to Lexington, Va. to begin Army Reserve training (he's under 18) at Virginia Military Institute...The two "mom" cats at Spencer Moore's store have presented more kittens--four apiece.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The Army cook had just whipped up orders of fried eggs for a hungry mob of soldiers. Wearing by the task, he sat down, yawned, lit a black cigar and wrote a letter to his sweetheart. It began:

"Darling, for the past three hours shells have been bursting all around me."

Nervous Barber: "Haven't I shaved you before?"

Soldier: "No. I got that scar in Guadalcanal."

Talkative Lady: "A big man like you might be better occupied than in cruelly catching little fish."

Fisherman: "Perhaps you're right, lady. But if this fish had kept his mouth shut, he wouldn't be here."

IN CLOSING

Well, it's been a pleasure to spend a little while with you once again. However, it seems as if I do all the talking. However, all of us know how busy you are most of the time. But whenever you feel like saying hello and can forget about self-absorbtly long enough to tell a little about yourself and the recent past, be sure to write. Meanwhile, best of luck to you. Sincerely,

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

Dean H. Ashton.

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 12

Hopewell, N.J., August 28, 1944

26th Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hi, there--as they say up in New Hampshire whence I've just returned after an enjoyable vacation. It seems good, though, to get back in stride and to sit in front of a typewriter. Those who had letters that I wrote in long-hand while I was away will agree that I should never get so far from a typewriter again.

The news has accumulated rapidly so my fears that this issue might be a bit low in content were ill-founded. Hope you'll agree after you've read it through.

I must give you a report about the way the newly-inaugurated Air Mail Edition has been received. It seems to have made a big hit and the comments are more than flattering. By using thin paper, printing on one side and dispatching it by air mail, the "News" Air Mail Edition gets there in a hurry for the benefit of those who are overseas. It appears that the plan was decided upon just in time, too, for the list of those overseas has already swelled considerably. Curiously enough, the London Times announced similar plans a short time after the "News" began it. Which will you take, the "News" or the London Times?

You will want to know who is sponsoring this present issue. Here they are, the friends who have paid for the paper, ink and postage: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ewing, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williamson, Mrs. Florence Hart Miller, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Housel.

SHIP PASSENGERS

Several Hopewell fellows have moved overseas lately. Sgt. John W. Dilts, who was out on a lonely Pacific Island for such a long time and then stationed in San Francisco for a year, has now had a trip across the Atlantic, it is believed. He has an APO out of New York and probably will be about 10,000 miles from his previous location.

Harold Temple, 2nd Lieut. in the Army Air Corps, probably is somewhere on the Pacific as this is being written. He has an APO number out of San Francisco. After being at home around Memorial Day, Harold went to California, previously being in Alabama and Georgia.....Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell also is out of the country, presumably in England. He is serving in an infantry outfit.....Another who has made a drastic move is Pvt. John "Jack" VanLieu. He was at Louisville, Ky. but a card mailed from Fort Wayne, gives him an APO number, too. He is now with a Combat Cargo group.

In the last issue, mention was made that Lawrence B. Hurley, as well as Norman Hoagland, probably would turn up overseas shortly. It's quite true. Lawrence, who is a Tec/4 with a Medical Battalion, is in England and reports that he is in a nice location. Norman, who is with a Field Artillery outfit, also is in the British Isles. He writes that "It is very pretty county and I am living in regulation Army huts and our camp is located on a former large country estate." He adds that he has learned to know the difference between a shilling and sixpence. Cigarettes, he finds, are only three cents a pack, English money.

OLD FRIENDS MEET IN HAWAIIANS

Cpl. Charles "Reg" Hurley hadn't seen anyone from the vicinity of home for 29 months so you can imagine how good it must have seemed on July 20th when Ken Hullfish, who is with a Navy ship repair unit, dropped in to see him. "Reg" describes it in a letter as "a nice surprise." Then he goes on to say: "You can imagine what joy was mine to see someone from my home-town. He could only stay a short while but we had a grand talk. He sure looks good." He added that they planned to get passes at the same time later. Ken, incidentally, has been stationed at Pearl Harbor.

But a letter from "Reg" dated Aug 14 proves once again that a serviceman can never make any definite plans. For he supplied a new address for himself and hinted strongly at other changes by saying that "I did not manage to see Ken again and doubt if I do again unless something unforeseen happens." He also added that he had been "very busy."

REVEALS AIR ACTIVITIES

Some of the intensive work carried on by the Navy torpedo squadron in which Arch Litzon, AMM 2/c, serves, can be told at last because some time has elapsed. But the information given by Arch seems slight when compared with disclosures made in "Life" magazine in connection with a picture of Navy airmen from his squadron who had been rescued at sea. Recently, Arch's air group was detached from their carrier and he had a chance to stay at a rest and recreation centre "out here in the Pacific."

"We have been frightfully busy," Arch wrote, "so this rest is very welcome. I don't know what our next tour of duty will be like, but I hope it won't be as lively as our last." In another letter, he apparently refers to much earlier action, saying: "We were in (censor made a peep-hole here) of which you have doubtlessly heard. We conducted strikes on the Marianas and the Bonins and were also in on the battle of the Philippine Sea. Prior to this, we had strikes on New Guinea and islands in the Carolines group."

Then in his most recent letter, Arch writes: "The air group from our ship was in on the bombing of Hollandia, New Guinea, and vicinity. Also, more recently, the bombing of islands in the Truk group, in which campaign our air group Commander, A.R. Matter, and crew were shot down, however, picked up by a rescue sub (two or three words blacked out). We were very fortunate in that we encountered no air opposition and anti-aircraft was scanty and not too accurate."

However, the story in "Life" really gets away from Navy reticence. It discloses how the U.S. submarine Tang rescued the crews of six planes on April 29 and 30 after the carrier raid on Truk. A total of 22 airmen were saved. Three were on a rubber raft south of Truk lagoon. On the second day, a plane directed the rescue sub to an overturned scout float plane and three more were rescued. Soon, a torpedo plane fell smacking into the sea and the rescue revealed Commander Matter, of Air Group 50 and his crew of two. Soon another plane 20 miles away called for aid and enroute, the sub picked up another fighter plane and an officer with only a life-belt. Reaching the other plane, they found its crew of two as well as seven other airmen who had been taken aboard, picked up from the sea. Finally, out of the darkness the same night, a bomber pilot and his ordnance man were found.

After all that, is Arch thinking it will be a long war in the Pacific? He says: "I only hope that you people back home are equally as optimistic toward this thing as we are."

WINS A CITATION

Pfc. Donald C. Dilts has won a citation for "courageous action" while serving in Italy with his tank battalion. It was awarded him by Lieut. General Mark W. Clark, Fifth Army Commander. The citation reads:

"On 24 May 1944 near San Giovanni, Italy, when his platoon leader's tank became immobilized in a ditch, PFC. Dilts dismounted from his own tank under enemy artillery and machine gun fire and tied a towing cable to the disabled vehicle to pull it back on the road. His immediate and courageous action undoubtedly prevented enemy destruction of valuable equipment."

DENNIS VANLIEW INJURED, MAY SOON BE HOME

Relatives of Sgt. Dennis P. VanLiew are awaiting further word about the extent of the injuries he sustained in France on July 19th, described as wounds of the right arm. Or it may be that he is on his way back to the U.S. as a letter that he had someone write for him stated that he was then walking about in a hospital in England. Denny, whose wife is the former Elsie Hill, was serving in an armored infantry battalion that was sent to France on July 16th and as luck would have it, trouble developed for him only three days later. His letter to his folks was reassuring, however, and mentioned the possibility of being sent back home.

"SILVER DOLLAR" PAYS DIVIDEND

S/Sgt. Clifford H. Leming, of Model Avenue, flies as right waist gunner in a B-17 Flying Fortress known as the "Silver Dollar." It has carried him on many important missions over Germany, culminating in the awarding of a Distinguished Flying Cross to Leming as a member of the air combat crew. Their bombing errands have taken them to Berlin and other industrial centres.

LONG REMEMBERED EVENT

Mrs. Lorene Gray, wife of Pastor Gray, had a happy evening on Aug. 23 when many of the ladies of Calvary Baptist Church held a "baby shower." There, you have it--advance word. The shower was held in the church basement and the night will long be remembered by others as well--but more of that in a moment. For the expected new-arrival, there were blankets, sweaters, booties and even a generous amount of cash. To clinax the party, refreshments had been provided. When about to serve, the ladies discovered that a cake had been stolen from the kitchen! The doors had been left open and left unguarded, proved to be too big an attraction for someone. Yep, a home-made cake stolen right out of the church kitchen!

UNCLAIMED ICE CREAM

Begins a big order of ice cream that apparently had no owner! It happened on a recent Saturday afternoon. The 5 P.M. bus arrived and the driver stopped in front of Calvary Baptist Church and carried a package to the church door. To the pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, he said: "Here's your ice cream!" Mr. Gray looked pleased but startled. He told the bus driver that he didn't know anything about it. The bus driver said he had instructions to leave it at the Baptist Church in Hopewell and that ended his responsibility.

So the bus went on its way to the other end of the Borough. Mr. Gray called J. Russell Riley to see what he might know about it. He, too, was surprised. However, the bus driver reappeared a few minutes later. He had more information now. The ice cream had been ordered for a supper being held by the Second Calvary Baptist Church (colored). So he picked up the package and away went the ice cream. At that, it had a close call, for the Grays really like ice cream.

UNION SERVICES HELD

Ignoring the extreme heat, churchgoers turned out well for the union services held in Calvary Baptist Church on Aug. 6 and 13. It was an opportunity for some to hear the new minister, Mr. Gray, for the first time. Both Sundays, the attendance exceeded 90. He preached on "The Tragedy of 'Almost'" and "Asking Favors" and a number of people were good enough to say that they certainly wanted to hear him soon again. It was so hot that the men in the choir took off their coats. Miss Sadie Densberry, alternate organist, was at the console. Earlier, union services were held in the Presbyterian Church with Dr. Jurji preaching, while the services for the past two Sundays were in the Methodist Church, with Rev. Harold Fuss in charge.

PASTOR'S BROTHER WINS AIR DECORATION

Pastor Gray understands that his 22-year-old brother, Laurence, a Flying Fortress pilot, is returning from overseas. He is a First Lieutenant and recently was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross, to go with his Air Medal and four clusters. He went overseas in March and has had more than 35 missions since that time, over Berlin, as well as aircraft plants and oil refineries elsewhere in Nazi territory.

RECENT INDUCTEES SCATTERED

When they took Harry C. McCandless into the Army, they must have decided to make sure that he didn't get home for week-ends. For after a few days at Fort Dix, they started him westward and now he is at Camp Roberts, California! He is in a Field Artillery Training Regiment and expects to be assigned to studies in radio work. Harry discovered that Red Skelton, movie star, is in his group and sits two or three seats away in some classes. Harry has been getting some practice in truck driving, looking at the roads through a gas-mask because it has been so dry and dusty. His train trip across country was quite an event, by way of Chicago, St. Louis, thru Kansas Dedge City, and finally waking up on Sunday, Aug. 6 in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains. While they rode in Pullmans, the soot piled up and water was scarce. So the fellows sent the porter for soft-drinks every time the train stopped, until finally he missed the train when it pulled out. However, he caught up with it later. Harry was quite impressed with the far-reaching cornfields, the bow-legged cowboys and Indians, and one town where the USO provided lemonade and Harry downed five glasses of it. They also had quite a wait on the desert in Arizona because of a delay encountered by the train ahead.

Garrett Conover, Jr.--who the Army insists on calling John--was sent to Camp Croft, South Carolina, for Infantry training. Word has just been received that he had a mishap, fracturing a bone in his foot. He is hospitalized and will be glad to hear from his friends. His address is Pvt. John G. Conover, 42083943, Co.D., 41st I. T.B., 1st Platoon, Camp Croft, S.C.

Leonard Vandewater is at Camp Stewart, Georgia, being trained as an Anti-Aircraft Replacement, taking the usual 17-week preliminary course. Jimmy Hall was sent to the same spot for similar training. Both of them, along with John Hart, of Hunt's Mills, have volunteered for training as paratroopers, it is reported. Jimmy is reconciled to some extent about being shifted to the Army when he counted on getting into the Navy. As he explains it, "I was not alone, as there were 86 of us ready to go into the Navy and 85 were sent into the Army. Then I also have an old friend here with me, Leonard Vandewater." However, their camp is in a low, damp area of Georgia.

HOME-MADE CAKE

With sugar still being rationed, home-made cake is quite a rarity, especially at a food sale. However, Mrs. Leon Hill made one for a Missionary Society sale at the church and when the chocolate icing had been spread on it, it was more than tempting. Andy Wyckoff, who lives with the Hills, felt that way about it and remarked that he'd give a quarter for a piece of it. Leon Hill said the same. Someone else offered to pay another quarter for a portion of it--all this before the cake reached the sale.

(continued on page 4)

HOME-MADE CAKE (Continued)

Andy waited to see what price was placed on the cake. Soon it was marked at \$1.25. Without a moment's hesitation, Andy said "I'm not going to be bothered that," and producing the \$1.25, took possession of the cake.

HOT WEATHER PICNIC

Ninety-eight people turned out for the Sunday School picnic and was it hot! So hot, in fact, that nearly everyone was content to sit in the shade and take it easy. Russell Riley drove a load of youngsters down to Harry Hullfish's in Ed Jones' truck. A baseball game over in the pasture got under way with Mr. Riley as umpire. Others went in for quits, croquet, until time for the picnic supper. The ice cream treat was more than appreciated. Then a sing followed with Sadie Dansberry in charge. Dark clouds began to gather and everyone decided it was time to head for home.

RIDE IN THE DARK

How would you like to drive in the dark from Sergeantsville to Hopewell? Well, Marvin Conover achieved it recently and made a thrilling experience out of it for Rev. and Mrs. Gray, and also for his wife, Mrs. Conover, Delbert and Ina Conover Hill. The group attended a Harvest Home supper, arriving at 5:45 to find that the first three tables were sold out but they could be seated at 8 P.M. Actually, they sat down at 8:30. When they were ready to start home, the lights on the car refused to work. Garages were closed, so Marvin started for home. At the first cross-road, he took the wrong turn. He backed up and nearly clipped a mail-box. Then he waited until two cars came along and darted between them--in that way, having lights ahead as well as behind him. That worked swell until they reached Ringoes when the car ahead went in a different direction. However, another car appeared and Marvin Conover took up the pursuit, even though the car was really traveling. At Titus' corner, he wanted to turn toward Hopewell but was persuaded to go to Wuart's Corner. From there, he tried to go ahead in the pitch blackness, feeling his way along the road. Finally, Hopewell was reached. Then Mr. Gray supplied a flashlight, and the Conovers went the rest of the way, with Delbert standing on one running board holding the light and Ina watching on the other side, so they could keep out of the ditch.

CEILING PRICES

Strange things happen these days at public sales because of ceiling prices on certain items. At the recent sale of goods owned by the Edgar VanDorens, West Bread Street (who are moving to Florida) a washing machine was bid up to \$55. It had cost \$35 about 10 years ago. As the ceiling price was around \$29, Mrs. VanDoren said she'd dispose of it and immediately sold it to a friend for \$22. When it came to an electric refrigerator, about 50 would-be buyers were ready to pay the ceiling price. So the auctioneer put slips in a hat and that's how they decided who got it.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Norman Heagland (Field Artillery) is hospitalized in England with a skin infection. After arriving in the British Isles, he had a busy time of it helping to get equipment unloaded and assembled.

Pvt. Franklin V. D. Hill (Marines) is now in San Diego, California, going there after finishing training at Parris Island, South Carolina.

Pvt. Thomas W. McCandless (Air Base Squadron) writes from Abilene, Texas, that he's been feasting on peaches, admitting that they are one of his weaknesses. At one meal, he had seven between those that he "stole" and had given to him by other fellows. Lately, he has been on night duty and had a chance to do a little tennis playing in his leisure hours. He expects to have a furlough this coming month.

William H. Wyckoff, SM 3/c, whose ship may be somewhere around Italy, writes: "We have been terribly busy of late. At night, I'm so tired that I don't even think of anything much but getting some shut-eye. It's nice to know what the local boys are doing and where they are. The Hopewell NEWS is my only source of information."

Robert I. Hill, F 1/c, continues to be far out in the Pacific where things are happening. Recently he was able to reveal that he "started out with Parvin Stryker (Blawenburg, in the Marines, who was wounded possibly at Saipan) and his outfit but of course we didn't stay as long as he did." After a few days back in port, Bob apparently was at sea again on Aug. 6 when he wrote that "Most of the time there are plenty of fresh breezes topside even though the sun gets pretty hot." He added that "There isn't any possible chance of telling anything of our past, present or future. The only thing I can say is that it probably has been in all the papers home and you'll just have to guess."

Pfc. Wilbur U. Hurley, of Steutsburg, with an A.A.F. Base Unit at Columbia, S.C., states that the temperature there stays around 100 to 105 degrees all the time.

Pvt. David W. Daniels, of R.D.#2, who is in Europe, has been awarded the Good Conduct medal.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Pfc. George A. Housel is with an AAA Gun Battery and last reported to be in the Marshall Islands of the Pacific. He had been in the service three years last July 17th, commenting, "Believe me, that's along time to be in the Army." Where he is, the air is damp and hot, but because of inspections, they were compelled to wear jackets all the time, he said.

Pfc. Elmer Sutphen is in France, doing duty with an AAA Battery. It's been three years in his case, too, since he lived in Hopewell so he says he had lost track of many of the fellows he used to know. Previously he was in Northern Ireland and England. As for France, Elmer says he cannot write much, but commented about the wooden shoes being worn and the very old houses.

H.E. Miller, Jr. C.C.M., husband of Florence Hart Miller, is with the Seabees on "Do Without Island" as they have termed it. They experience extreme heat but cannot go into the water because the coral is too hard on the feet, and they also would have the sharks to think about.

Cpl. John W. Flagg is with a Fighter Squadron apparently near Pearl Harbor for he indicates that he hopes to see Ken Hullfish, mentioning that they cannot be much further apart than the distance between Hopewell and Trenton. When they do meet, John probably will get to talking about the times when he worked on Ken's car at Norman Blackwell's garage. The year-round swimming and the Hawaiian sunshine are very much to John's liking.

Pvt. Edward Ashton, grandson of Hopewell's former taxi operator, has been cited for bravery in Italy, after he and a lieutenant captured two German snipers.

William Johnson was in town for several days on furlough from Camp Roberts, Calif., and then reported to Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He has gained considerable weight on Army chow.

Pvt. William R. Bodine, who is in ASTRP at the Univ. of Buffalo, is making progress. The townspeople give them a break and he has had an opportunity to get about a bit, despite a heavy study schedule. One trip took him to Niagara Falls.

Clarence Laird (Air Corps) had a furlough and was around town but expected to be going long distances soon.

Tom Bregenzler and his pal, Bill Eelman, of Skillman, were home on shore leave from the Navy. It had been quite awhile since either had been home. Tom has added poundage aplenty.

CHURCH DOINGS

Further improvements are being made to the church parsonage, including new screens for kitchen windows and the doorway, and some paint for the upstairs den.... Mr. Gray, in his vacation time, has been doing some re-decorating of furniture, liking to do same as a hobby.... The Grays spent a few days in Ridgewood visiting friends they know in the mid-West who recently moved there.... The ILL Class of ladies held a watermelon party at the home of Mrs. Lillian Phillips..... The Grays are amazed at the size of Jersey Lima beans.... Mrs. Joseph Baldwin has been a real pinch-hitter this Summer in the Sunday School, taking care of classes from six-to-sixty or better. One Sunday she taught the Men's Class combined with the younger women's group and a Sunday or two later was doing a good job in the Beginners' Department.... On a recent Sunday, Rev. N. Vance Johnston, former pastor, preached in the First Baptist Church, Trenton..... Every pastor's wife seems to have a favorite recipe. Mrs. Gray makes a swell ginger cake with a tart lemon frosting.... Four members of the choir are vacationing at Lake Como, Pa., the group including Roma Weaver, Sadie Dansberry, Margaret Hullfish, G. Lloyd Drake, as well as Ruth Drake and Mrs. Weaver.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

During the recent extremely hot weather, the air-conditioning at the movies had a strong appeal; also swimming pools, with 1,300 reported being at Weart's on a single day.... John Cromwell's mother went up to see him in the Catskills where he's been saxaphoning this Summer in a hotel orchestra. She took a home-made cake for John and the rest of the boys, and if John didn't say he was longing for some Jersey tomatoes.... Friends gave a shower recently for Blanche Hill who is to be wed in the near future to Edgar Voorhees.... Bob Williamson will teach this year at New Brunswick but still live at North Plainfield where he has his home.... The tomato cannery is going strong right now, but having difficulty in getting enough help.... Donald Allen has taken another one of these long bike rides, this time to Hacklebarney Park up in Morris County.... In the Cox & Cray barbershop, they have had a picture of the old blacksmith shop at Mount Rose in the days when they were so busy that they had to have three blacksmiths.... The "Needle Club" in the barbershop was working out on Harry Cox lately about his lima beans. They became longer and longer, as the story grew, until at last reports "the lima beans had to be cut in half so he could haul them across the street in a wheelbarrow.".... At the Golf Club, an employee mowing high grass near the brook found 42 golf balls in one day and was getting rich selling them back to the golfers.... Several Hopewell women call themselves "Quit Widows" because of the matches continuing at Harry Hullfish's.

ABOUT THE SPONSORS

Nearly every letter received from the fellows in the service requests that a word of thanks be expressed to those whose contributions help to keep the "S" going. For example, Bill Wyckoff (in the Mediterranean area) writes: "I'd like to have you thank the sponsors. What they are doing is deeply appreciated by me and as well by all hands who receive it." And Wilbur Hurley (who is in South Carolina) says that "When the boys say they appreciate it, take it from me they really do; they're not just being polite." And Henry Orr, on the Island of Maui, in the Hawaiians, has this to say: "I am always glad to receive my copy."

Since space cannot be taken regularly to print all these messages, this special mention is being made at this time. To the contributors then--past, present and future--your help is greatly appreciated by all concerned. Perhaps it should be added that when cash is accepted, it is with the understanding that any balance remaining when the "NEWS" has fulfilled its purpose, will be given to some worthwhile cause at the Editor's selection.

A FEW WORTHY THOUGHTS

Prayers unlike any you have ever heard or read have been written by Dr. John Baillie. Having chanced upon a little volume containing them recently, it occurs to me that you might like to read and think about the prayer that follows:

"O Lord my God, I would kneel before Thee in lowly adoration ere I set out to face the tasks and interests of another day. I thank Thee for the blessed assurance that I shall not be called upon to face them alone nor in my own strength, but shall at all times be accompanied by Thy presence and fortified by Thy grace....let the consciousness of this holy fellowship with Thee follow me whithersoever I go, cheering me in loneliness, protecting me in company, strengthening me against temptation, encouraging me to all just and charitable deeds."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The absent-minded professor came walking down the street, one foot on the curb and the other foot in the gutter.

"Hey! What's the matter with you?" a friend shouted.

"I don't know," the absent-minded professor replied. "I felt all right when I started out but for some reason, I've been limping for the last block."

Said the toe to the sock:

"Let me through, let me through."

Said the sock to the toe:

"I'll be darned if I do."

"The thing for you to do," said the doctor to the man with the frazzled nerves, "is to stop thinking about yourself--to bury yourself in your work."

"Gosh," replied the patient, "I'm a concrete mixer!"

"Congratulations, old top. Just heard about you and Alice. How long have you been engaged?"

"Two weeks."

"Have you kissed her yet?"

"No, but I think I could!"

IN CLOSING

I'd like to make a little check-up on the addresses on my mailing list. Take a look, if you will, at the envelope in which this arrived. If it's wrong in any respect, be sure to let me know without delay. I've found that I fail to keep abreast of promotions particularly, yet I'm sure that a Pfc. feels a little let down when his mail continues to be addressed to him as "Pvt." Incidentally, those are the things that I like to hear about and the readers of the "NEWS" generally.

Well, it's been nice to have this visit with you again. Hope I haven't kept you from more urgent business nor deprived you of well-earned sleep. When you get a chance to write, I'll always be glad to hear from you. Best of luck to you.

97 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, New Jersey (U.S.A.)

DRAN H. ASHTON.

HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS. AND YOU.

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 13

Hopewell, N.J., September 18, 1944

27th Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hello, everybody--here's calling on points, England, France, Italy, Africa, India, China, New Guinea, the Hawaiian Islands and any other spots that may be reached by this issue. And that's not foolin'. Thanks to everyone for the "fan mail." Even though I know you're only kidding when you speak of the "Hopewell News" as a great little newspaper, it's great to know that it's appreciated all along the line.

One fellow in the service has come through with a suggested slogan for the "News." He says we should print up there over the name at the top of this sheet these words: "Gets into the barracks and foxholes where circulation really counts." Thanks for the compliment.

Aside from those words of praise, things do happen that are very gratifying. For instance, Titusville started a similar news service for its servicemen calling it "Local Chatter" and the sponsors there asked to see sample copies of the "Hopewell News." Incidentally, they're doing a good job with their paper, with Monte Crews as the editor. Then recently an inquiry came from Montana--yessir, Montana--with the word that something similar was contemplated in a town there.

By the way, this is the 27th issue of the "Hopewell News" and still going strong. The sponsors of this issue, who really deserve as much thanks as the Editor, are: Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Leming, Mr. Paul Cutter, Mr. Edgar Copner, all of Hopewell, and Mrs. Mary J. Sheppard, of Trenton.

HONOR ROLL LENGTHENS

Forty names now appear on the Honor Roll plaque that adorns a side wall in the Calvary Baptist Church. Five additional names were placed upon it and a dedication ceremony similar to that held earlier in the year when the plaque was installed, was held on Sunday morning, Sept. 10th. Pastor Gray and the congregation took part in a special responsive reading. These names were added to the list: 2nd Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard (sister of Ed Sheppard); John Garrett Conover, Colin A. McBurney, Harry C. McCandless and Leonard Vandewater. A prayer for the service men and women--an impressive moment about 11:30 A. M. every Sunday morning--followed.

HAROLD TEMPLE IN NEW GUINEA

The destination of 2nd Lieut. Harold Temple, reported in the last issue as being out on the Pacific, is now known. He wrote: "I can now say I landed in New Guinea after quite a nice trip across." But a P.S. on the same letter contained this surprise: "I wrote this letter aboard a plane traveling to Australia, so I am there at the present time." But on the heels of that, came word that Harold returned soon thereafter to New Guinea. It is believed that he is now assigned to the Fleet Transport Command. Writing about his boat trip, Harold said: "We had a chaplain on our boat so we had outdoor services which we all enjoyed very much. The chaplain also acted as librarian. We did quite a lot of reading on the way across. We also had some movies and I guess we saw each picture about three times but we were still willing to see them over again." He likes the Australians, but had quite a time getting used to their money system as well as their accent.

THOSE JEEPS

Have you ever wondered what's to be done with all those "jeeps" that Uncle Sam will have left over when this war ends? There have been many ideas advanced, chiefly that farmers will find them useful for heavy duty. Many auto owners are dismayed when they think of the possibility of innumerable "jeeps" competing for space on the highways when there's plenty of gas and tires again. The U.S. Post Office, it develops, is sounding out the rural mail carriers as to whether they think a "jeep" would be practical. If so, they say that about 10,000 "jeeps" could be put to good use. Haven't heard as yet what Edgar Copner may think about it, but a "jeep" might appeal to him at that when the Spring muddy season is at hand.

BUSY DAYS AT TOMATO CANNERY

Tons and tons of tomatoes are being delivered these days to the tomato cannery, with the management struggling to get them canned despite a shortage of help. For the first time, they are also producing tomato juice, having installed some new equipment for that purpose. The plant is being operated again this year by the Urban Food Co., with Mr. Dorl, of Summit, in charge.

The farmers are right at the height of their tomato season now and maybe the peelers don't know it! Reports are that the tomatoes have tougher skins this year, due to the dry weather. However, some of the expert peelers can zip through as many as 60 bucketsful a day, and that's a lot of tomatoes. About 20 peelers are on the job but they had hoped to get about twice as many. Most of the crop will be sold to the government, as in the past year. Mrs. Merrrell, who has supervised the peelers for a number of years, gave up her job after the season started. Another who is missing is George Savidge, who didn't undertake the work this year. But Mr. Hoagland is still firing the boiler and one family of six comes daily from Monmouth Junction to work in the factory. One day, a shutdown occurred because of a defective boiler but it was back in shape by the next afternoon. So the cannery hums with activity—and those who don't like to smell tomatoes, steer clear of that end of town—unless they happen to have jobs at H.A.'s.

REG HURLEY'S TOMATO STORY GROWS

Speaking of tomatoes, "Reg" Hurley wrote recently that some folks back home had doubted his tale about tomatoes in Hawaii that keep on growing and produce almost endlessly. But "Reg" says that it's all true and the story really should be amplified. He writes:

"I had letters from certain people at home kidding me about the tomatoes, even saying I should join the 'Tall Story Tellers' Club.' That story was on the level and here is something else about tomatoes here. When the plants get old, you can cut the tops off and plant them as slips and have more plants. I knew that sounds impossible but it is true. Now I guess the people will say I am a charter member, for sure!"

But "Reg" apparently has moved to another location recently, and if so, he is going to miss these tomato plants. However, his story is supported by Ken Hullfish, MM 3/c who is at Pearl Harbor in ship repair work. Recently he wrote: "Out here the gardens grow year round. When they stop bearing, they just pull up the vines and plant them over again. The temperature stays the same year round, never too hot, and at night it gets nice and cool, which makes nice sleeping. You probably think that is pretty nice but they tell us it becomes very monotonous not having the change of seasons like we do back home." Recently, Ken saw Bob Hill, F 1/c, and Ray Burd, and that can only mean that the ship they are aboard visited that area.

RAILROAD STATION MISHAP

Two women from Bellemead were standing on the Reading station platform in Hopewell waiting for the Saturday 2.59 train. One dropped her shopping bag and immediately a liquid began to drip out of the bottom of the bag. "Oh, my new stockings!" she exclaimed. "And my candy!" she added. To those nearby, it was quite apparent that the liquid was beer, both from the odor and the foam on it. Then the two women began to laugh—and they laughed and they laughed! "What will I tell him when he asks if I brought his bottle of beer?" she exclaimed. "He will never believe me when I tell him I dropped the bag and the bottle broke." "Look at your shoes!" the other woman directed, for they were well splattered. More laughter. "And when we get on the train, the people will think we are two rummies!" the second woman remarked. Then more laughter. Luckily, they got their possessions re-assembled before the "dinky" arrived, but the fragments of the bottle remained on the platform when they boarded the train, still laughing.

TWO WEDDINGS IN ONE WEEK

It isn't June and the month of marriages, but Rev. Raymond A. Gray, of Calvary Baptist Church, had two weddings in one week. While he had assisted in other weddings before coming to Hopewell—and been one of the principals in his own, of course—these were the first ceremonies in which he had full charge. The first wedding made man and wife of Miss Harriet Stey and David Danberry, who live over Harborton-way. They were wed in the Baptist parsonage.

Six days later, Blanche Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Hill, and Edgar Voorhees, were wed in a pretty outdoor ceremony at the bride's home. A gateway had been erected on the front lawn, with a white fence at each side, and decorated with flowers and greens. After a wedding repast had been served,—during which some of the guests decorated the bridal car, the happy couple departed, but in another car. They plan to live just beyond Stoutsburg where Edgar is employed on a farm.

GINTERS RETURN

After being out in Seattle, Washington, for the Summer, Mrs. John Ginter and sons, Jack and Donald, are back in Hopewell. They had been with Captain Ginter, Army chaplain who is stationed at the B-29 Super-fortress school adjacent to the Boeing plant. There is some possibility that Capt. Ginter may get a new assignment later, possibly going to Hawaii but that's speculation right now. While at Seattle, Jack took a half-hour's trip out of town one day and reached a spot where there was 12 feet of snow. He also had a chance to see the Bremerton Navy Yard and a lot of big stuff in the harbor there.

THREE-YEAR-OLD SHOPPER

Ed Whitehead was surprised when a youngster, not quite three years old, walked into his store, placed a half-dollar on the counter and said "Candy!" He took two or three candy kisses from the showcase and handed them to the little girl, then put the half-dollar in a paper bag, twisted the top tightly and directed her to take it to her Mother. The child obeyed to the extent of putting the bag on the kitchen table and when asked the source of the candy, told readily.

It was little Dorothy Denito, of Lafayette Street. Up to that point, her older sister, Edna, hadn't discovered that her half-dollar, left near the radio, had vanished. Nor did their Father, Vincent Denito—the violin maestro—know that the bag contained a fifty-cent piece, so he tossed it into the garbage. But when Edna began to search, Vince suddenly realized that the loss might be linked with the baby's candy. He remembered about the bag, and rescuing it, found it contained the missing half-dollar.

LOST BULLDOG

Scott Dansberry, Jr. takes real pride in his bulldog pup, for it's a real pet and well-trained. On a recent Sunday morning, the dog vanished. Scotty felt so concerned about it that at the session of the Baptist Bible School, he mentioned it and asked that he be notified if anyone saw the dog.

Nobody saw the pup, however—except Scotty, who found that the dog was sleeping soundly on a bed upstairs.

SUGAR STAMP CRISIS

Needing an extra sugar allowance to can peaches, Leigh Hurley's wife applied to the Ration Board in Pennington for extra stamps. They didn't come and the baskets of peaches couldn't be held indefinitely. So she notified the Ration Board and was advised that the sugar had been allotted to her and the stamps mailed.

Then it developed that a mix-up had occurred since there are two Margaret Hurleys in Hopewell, and as luck would have it, the second Mrs. Margaret Hurley, who lives on Railroad Place, had been away. The OPA office decided to trace the stamps through the Postoffice and it was found that the second Mrs. Hurley had been away and had just returned, to find the sugar stamps mysteriously waiting for her. The difficulty was soon adjusted.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

With the schools reopened, two new teachers are on the job at the Hopewell Elementary School, Mrs. Avis Keoppel (Seventh Grade) and Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice, (6th Grade).....Bus pupils who ride to Princeton High found that George Clark, owner, had posted notices reading "No Smoking—No Swearing" as well as orders not to litter up the floors, "Positively No Arms Out of Windows," "No Rests Taken From Windows" and a warning that any pupils who damaged the buses would pay the bill and be denied transportation to and from school.....Dezzie Casey's "classy Cadillac"—a rejuvenated flivver with an open muffler pipe, will soon see less service, now that the swimming season at the Quarry Pool, is about over.....

Ina Conover Hill received an orchid mailed from Honolulu by her husband, Bob, as a wedding anniversary gift, and it arrived in excellent condition, making it in four days.....Elmer Weart has bought 100 acres adjoining his farm, and it's reported that he plans to enlarge his peach orchard. His peaches have been in great demand around town, selling at \$1.50 per basket....The Edgar VanDorens have left for their permanent home in Florida and folks by the name of Barr will live in the VanDoren House, Mr. Barr working at State Village....Louise Hill and seven Girl Scouts camped at the Benson cabin "up on the mountain" near the Rock House, and when they had flapjacks for breakfast, it took an hour to cook enough to fill them all full....Ann Moore, daughter of Spencer Moore, the grocer, had 'em worried when the end of a fever thermometer broke off in her mouth. The liquid caused burns but the chief worry was whether she had swallowed any glass. She showed no ill effects.....Up on the Green farm at the West end of town, Fred Sutphen erected a high fence near the barn and also on the street side of the lot where the Firemen's carnivals usually are held. When the rest of the fencing is in place, the Butcher horses will have more room to exercise.

CHURCH DOINGS

Fall work in Calvary Baptist Church is getting off to a fine start. Congregations are large (religion has a deeper meaning to many folks these days), music is varied, and Rev. Raymond A. Gray is going strong as a preacher and pastor.....the ladies are planning to revive the annual chicken supper, a Fall event until last year.....Claire Morrell and Margaret Hullfish sang a duet one morning that went over big.....Sadie Dansberry, choir director, was missed on the two Sundays that she went to Pennington to play the organ for the Presbyterian Church....Rev. Goodwin Webster, former pastor, was in town and attended Bible School, accompanied by his wife, being warmly greeted by old friends. He appeared as hale and hearty as ever....There's a mystery about a missing pink coat, left at the church after an Eastern Star banquet, whose owner has now come forth only to learn that the identity of the person who volunteered to seek out the owner isn't known nor the whereabouts of the coat.

The Donald Allens will remember the night that they entertained Pastor and Mrs. Gray at dinner, for at the close of the fine dinner, the Grays revealed that it really marked their (the Grays) wedding anniversary, Sept. 1....Rev. F. L. Lewno, who was heard as a candidate for the pastorate last Spring, is now serving as pastor for two churches for white residents on the Crow Indian Reservation, being at Lodge Grass, Montana, near the Big Horn Mountains.

Former Pastor N. Vance Johnston was more than happy to see his brother, returned from England on Aug. 21, with 35 air missions to his credit. He was slightly wounded over Italy but looks fine now and has some harrowing tales to relate...

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

When the U.S. Marines tackled Saipan and Tinian, those strategic islands that were held by the Japs, Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard was right there. Word to that effect has just come through. Ed wrote: "Now that Saipan and Tinian are over, I am back in a rest camp. Things seem almost like home after being out there. One thing I can do now is to go out and get a steak dinner and look around again. That is the main thing I miss out here, to be able to sit down and eat a good meal in peace and comfort."

Pfc. Donald C. Dilts has shifted the scene of his activities with a tank battalion to France, most likely being with the invasion troops that entered Southern France, as he previously was in Italy....Dennis P. VanLiew, S/Sgt., sends further word about his injuries, saying he can now use his arm to some extent and the other thinks he may be ready to travel soon.

Arch Litzén, A.M.M. 2/c, returned from the Pacific waters; Pvt. Thomas W. McCandless, up from Abilene Air Base, Texas, and Pvt. William S. Conover, now at Camp Stewart, Georgia, with an AAA Bn., were at home and attended church. Arch's ship was back in California and Navy authorities have announced that the Torpedo Squadron to which he was assigned has been dissolved, after flying Avenger torpedo bombers in support of invasions of Saipan and Hollandia. Arch looked good, rather weather-seasoned and wondering about his next assignment. Tom McCandless is working away getting out repair parts, etc., while Bill Conover, who has been in the Army four and a half years with service in Panama and more recently at Camp Davis, N.C., is assigned to a searchlight battalion...2nd Lieut. Kenneth R. Burreughs was back home recently for a brief look-in, having been at Lincoln, Nebraska....Erwin Benson, a Corporal with the paratroopers, is getting advanced training and continues in North Carolina....His brother, Graham L. Benson, is completing his aviation mechanic course with the Marines at Memphis, Tenn.

Sgt. Ernest Blackwell arrived in England but admits that "I am still puzzling over the shilling, florin, crown and pound but I've got it pretty straight now." He adds that it's also unusual to be going to bed when it's still light and also "the way the English twist up the English language.".....Pvt. John G. Conover--better known as Garrett, has recuperated to some extent from his foot trouble involving a broken bone in his foot. However, his hospital stay has caused him to lose his company, so after giving him a weekend of K.P. duty, they gave him a week's leave and he returned quite unexpected to Hopewell. The arrangement suited him swell, as he was able to help his wife move down from Lake Lackawanna, near Stanhope, N.J. She will live, with her grandfather, Mr. Rehberg, and daughter, Gail, in the house close by the Conover home..While moving around the hospital on crutches, Garrett went to a band concert in the Red Cross auditorium and he said it "really brought back memories of the Hopewell Band" in which he played a trumpet. The band even played some of the numbers that the Hopewell Band used to play, making Garrett long to get up there and play, too.

Pfc. Colin A. McBurney, with a bomb squadron at Harvard, Nebraska, is taking specialist training, every man in a bomber specializing on one or two jobs, in addition to being able to do the other fellows' jobs. He adds: "You don't know what the feeling of flying is until you have climbed up to about 40,000 feet and look down at the earth, or to stunt-fly in a heavy bomber at 10,000. I'll admit it can't be maneuvered like a small fast plane but there are one or two maneuvers that can hold you pinned to the floor, and boy--what a feeling!"

Parvin Stryker, of Blawenburg, is back in active service with the Marines, his wound involving a laceration near the elbow due to a stabbing while the Marines were seizing one of those Pacific Islands....Cpl. John W. Flagg wrote in August that he was sure he was quite near to Ken Hullfish (Pearl Harbor) being "no further than Hopewell is from Trenton," but since that time, a new APO number has come through for John, suggesting that John has moved to a new area.....William F. Lenz, of Mount Rose, has been cited for bravery as a paratrooper in the invasion of France.

The husband of the former Mary Bregeazer, Harry Loveless, PFC, has been reported wounded in France....Hilbert Hurley, S2/c, of Stoutsburg, is in Chicago for final training on LST activities, going there from Camp Bradford, Norfolk, Va....The Embley boys have been able to get home frequently, Sheldon being stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, while Dick's ship has been at Boston for an overhauling after being in trans-Atlantic service....

Cpl. Alan F. Hart, who is in India, says that a letter from home or from friends "is a real pick-me-up." His base is near Calcutta but Alan has been on detached service for some time, this taking him into varied sections of the country. He added that he was awaiting orders "which may eventually enable me to catch up with Orville Holcombe in another sector of this theatre." (Orville Holcombe is in China.)

Pvt. William R. Bodine will complete his first half-year's work at the Univ. of Buffalo in Oct. He was home recently for a short visit but was ready to go back remarking that "The town is pretty dead right now with all the fellows away." He is getting good grades, and declares that sleeping in the basement of the gym, because of the crowded condition of the dormitories, is quite all right.

Cpl. Henry Orr, on the Island of Maui, Territory of Hawaii, says they've been overlooked out there on up-to-date movies. "The main features are usually from 2 to 5 years old," he states, "and the movie projector breaks down at least once or twice each night, but we always go back for more." The natives also provide entertainment, and Henry says that the "hula shows break the monotony." In addition to their work, the fellows have time for swimming and sports and get a pass about every 10 days, so they can spend a day in one of the towns on the island.

Joseph A. McAlinden, 17-year-old son of Postmaster and Mrs. Merritt McAlinden, has been promoted to Fireman, 1/C. He is at a submarine base in the Pacific and sends home interesting word about life in the tropics. He expects to be there 18 months before being eligible for a furlough. He took boot training at Sampson, N.Y. His brother, Sgt. Merritt McAlinden, has been expecting to leave Camp Howze, Texas, after previously being in Baltimore, as well as several Southern states, including Miss., La., Georgia and Alabama.

Pvt. William E. Johnson has been taking advanced training at Fort Jackson, S. C., being with an infantry company. He said that "the camp itself isn't so bad, the weather is good but we're getting a wee bit bored," because of absence of orders to date to move overseas.

HURRICANE REPORT

For five to six hours, Hopewell was whipped by hurricane winds starting late in the afternoon on Sept. 14 and continuing until late evening. The Jersey coast took the worst beating, particularly Atlantic City where sections of the boardwalk were torn away, while stores and hotels, etc. on the streets leading to the beach were inundated. The waves were so high that they rolled higher than the boardwalk.

In Hopewell, all lights went out about 7 P.M. and didn't come on until later in the night, so the town was in pitch-darkness. The rain that accompanied the winds looked like a wall of water, most of the time. Quite a few trees were uprooted, one along Ginter's driveway blowing over on the porch. On Lafayette Street, another was broken off, while limbs were down generally. On the Reading Railroad, lights went off on the signal system and for a time, Mr. Lanning had to walk out to meet every train that stopped at the signal, in order to wave them on, after clearance was assured by phone service. The three days of rain that came along with the hurricane (prior to it, mostly) ended the long dry spell, however, and filled wells that were either dry or alarmingly low.

The storm also brought activities to a halt at the tomato cannery, as farmers couldn't do any picking until the weather cleared. Borough street employees had a big job getting limbs trimmed down and hauled away, including a big tree near the Borough hall that toppled over. But while newspapers reported "Jersey hard hit," Hopewell fared quite well, compared with seashore towns.

IN CLOSING

Well, this looks like the hopping-off place. For those who get the Air Mail Edition, regrets that the joke column has to be omitted. However, the page will be held and perhaps it can be included in the next mailing. After all, jokes are not likely to go stale, unless you've heard them before. Best of luck to you. Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

An officer approached the young man in a neatly fitting uniform and said:
 "What's the eighth general order?"

"I don't know," the fellow admitted.

"Have you ever been on guard duty?"

"Nopè."

"You don't even know enough to say 'Sir.' What outfit are you with?"

"I'm the Coca-Cola man."

 First Paratrooper: "What a mess! We're going to land on that island and I'll bet it's full of wild men."

Second Paratrooper: "Cheer up, Bud, where there's wild men, there's bound to be wild women."

 Sergeant: "Sir, the bugler is missing."

Lieutenant: "Where do you think he is?"

Sergeant: "I dunno, sir, he just blew!"

 Here lies the body of Casey
 A bullet turned him to clay,
 He was leading the life of Riley
 While Riley was away!

 Mother: "Did that soldier attempt to kiss you last night?"

Daughter: "Why, Mother, you don't think he came all the way from camp just to listen to our radio, do you?"

 Consider the Penguin, he's smart as can be--
 Dressed in his dinner clothes permanently,
 You can never tell, when you see him about,
 If he's late coming in or just going out!

 "Do you love me, dear?" he cried, but feared a cold rejection.

"Of course I do," the maid replied, "Why make you an exception?"

 THE GREAT COSMOPOLIS

By Howard Dietz.

New York is full of aliens, Meroccans and Australians,
 Brazilians and Sicilians and the swarthy Hindustans--
 Infested with Peruvians, Phoenicians and Vesuvians,
 Algerians and Syrians and many other clans.

New York is full of Russians, full of Prussians, full of Swedes--
 Bavarians, Hungarians, and other motley breeds,
 The populace of every place from Kankakee to Cork.
 New York is full of everything but people from New York.

New York has its Bulgarians, its Polish and Ontarians,
 Parisians and Silesians and the folk of sunny Spain.
 New York has its Rumanians, as well as Lithuanians,
 New Yorkers come from China, Carolina, Greece and Maine."

New York is full of Tartans, full of Spartans, full of Greeks--
 Croatians and Dalmatians and a thousand other freaks;
 To find a real New Yorker is a problem tough as pork
 New York is full of everything but people from New York!

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HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 14

Hopewell, N.J., October 10, 1944

28th Issue

A GREAT DAY COMING

Now we know a little better what it's going to be like when peace is achieved and those eagerly-awaited home-comings are a reality. For the three VanLiew brothers have just been together at home--Dennis, Fred and Harold--and along with their parents, attended the congregational supper in Calvary Baptist Church. It was a thrilling experience for all concerned, with joy and sadness also intermingled--but an occasion long to be remembered. And, in all likelihood, that's what home-comings will be like at war's end.

Yes, Dennis is back in town, returning from France, taking his set-back in stride and determined to get along. Already, he is driving his car, even though he only had his left arm and hand. Later, he expects that a plastic right arm will enable him to get along quite well, as about three inches of his arm remains below the right shoulder. Denny is more concerned over the fact that he wasn't of greater usefulness to the Army. "To think that I trained for three and a half years and then only put in a day and a half of service in France!" he says. He was injured on July 19th, almost immediately after moving to France from England. It seems that Denny was on guard duty when injured and he still doesn't know what happened. Apparently a shell or fragment of a shell came his way, and some time elapsed before he was picked up. After a stay in England, he was brought back to the U.S. and hospitalized on Staten Island, and then shifted to Atlanta, Georgia, whence he came for his present furlough. When they moved him down there, his train went right through Hopewell and you can imagine how he felt about riding right through after being overseas. But that is past and gone now, and he returns to Atlanta at the end of his present 14-day furlough. There is some possibility that he may be given his honorable discharge by Christmas time.

Fred VanLiew, serving in an A.G.F. Band at Fort Jackson, S. C., had made a trip to Atlanta, Ga. on the previous Sunday (before the family "reunion"). He had about six hours with Denny, even though it took a lot of traveling on Fred's part. However, it was worth it, and it enabled him to telegraph home that they had been together. Then fortunately, Harold, who is an A.O.M.2/c in the Navy, recently was moved from Norfolk, Va. to the Naval Air Station at Atlantic City. So, when Denny's home coming was assured, Harold and Fred found a way to head for Hopewell, too. Harold rather expects to be at Atlantic City until February and then to go aboard a new aircraft carrier that is now being completed.

ON THE MOVE

Several fellows have made long journeys in recent weeks to overseas destinations. Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland is in Belgium, probably the first from this vicinity to reach that liberated country. Pvt. John "Jack" VanLiou is in the CBI area, probably India with a Combat Cargo Group. Pvt. Franklin V.D. Hill has moved out of California with the Marines to take his place with the Fourth Marine Division in which Ed Sheppard and Parvin Stryker are serving in the seizure of Pacific islands in the advance on Japan. Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell is somewhere in France, not delaying long in England. Two others have also headed across the Atlantic, being Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs, of the Army Air Corps, and Pvt. Harry J. Erickson, who is with the Armored Field Artillery. We'll have to wait for more definite reports concerning their whereabouts.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL RESIGNS

Charles M. Wilgus, principal of the Hopewell Elementary School, is resigning to accept a position at Scotch Plains, up in Union County, near Plainfield. His decision has caused quite a flurry, occurring as it did after the start of the new school year. Mr. Wilgus has been in Hopewell for the past two years, combining supervision of the Eighth Grade and the teaching of science with his duties as principal.

SURPRISED DOCTOR

(2)

DOCTORS have many unusual experiences and in the rush of things, some of them may be quickly forgotten. But Dr. Swartfeger will surely remember the arrival of his new daughter, now named Mari Francis. According to reports, Mrs. Swartfeger decided it was time to head for the hospital but the doctor felt sure he had time to finish his breakfast. But he miscalculated for just beyond the Pennington traffic circle, Mari Francis arrived! Dr. Swartfeger, being a physician, was equal to the situation, and then hastened on to the hospital to present two patients, instead of one. The little girl weighed more than 9 pounds.

Speaking of new arrivals, Russell Riley is a proud grandfather, a son being born out in Salom, Ohio, to J. Russell, Jr. and his wife. It isn't going to be too easy for the grandparents to get accustomed to the grandson's name--it's James Michael Riley--(No, not O'Riley!)--but that will come in time. That's the way it was with a letter giving details that was expected from J.R., Jr. He had phoned to convey the good news and promised a letter. When several days elapsed and no further word arrived, Mr. Riley decided to phone. His son was astounded that it hadn't arrived and then finally said, "It must be in my coat pocket!" He promised to mail it at once but the postmark showed, when it arrived, that the new father was still in a whirl as it actually was mailed two days later. But all's well and James Michael Riley is doing all right.

MEN'S GROUP STARTS ACTIVITIES

It seemed good to get a fine group of men together at Calvary Baptist Church the other night, to launch a program of Fall and Winter activities. There was a lot of enthusiasm shown, and a pancake-and-sausage supper for men is shaping up for the near future. Equipment for recreation is being put into good shape, including shuffleboard, dart-baseball, quoits and ping-pong. The group plans to meet every other Monday night. Howard Wilson, president, has been active but sudden demands of his job will keep him tied down for a couple of months, so Leon "Ducky" Drake was named as Acting President. Being secretary-treasurer, he thought he had job enough but the Men's Group decided he'd do all right for a while as a "one-man" slate of officers.

BAND LEADER MOVES TO TOWN

Remember the Hopewell Boys' Band that grew up? Well, it may be that a leader will be right at hand if the day comes when the former players return from military service and feel inclined to blow a few toots now and then. For Andrew R. Frech, who directs the Princeton High School band and orchestra has moved to Hopewell, taking a house on West Prospect Street. Mr. Frech is a well-qualified, experienced leader and has done a real job in training students and presenting them in concerts that would put a lot of town bands to shame. He is known in Hopewell as the High School band has played concerts in Hopewell, and everyone has found him to be likeable. It would be swell for the town to have a band again some of these days, wouldn't it?

INJURED

Word has been received that Diego Stefani, serving in the Infantry in France, has been wounded. He is a brother of Ida Stefani, who works in the Post-Office. He had been in England about a week, then crossed the Channel and shortly before the report on his injury was received, had reported that he was seeing plenty of action and had had some close calls. Later, he said he was in a hospital in England, had several cuts about the head, stitches being required, but was improving.

Local residents also were sorry to learn that James C. Carter, 2nd Lieut. who is engaged to Claire Morrell, had been injured and his left foot amputated. He is a son of a former teacher at Central High School, Pennington. Carter was serving in France, and in addition to his foot injury, was hit in the chest by shrapnel. He was moved back to England for treatment.

PLANS FOR V-E DAY OBSERVANCE

While the end of the war in Europe is yet to be achieved, plans for Hopewell's observance of V-E Day have been developed. While great rejoicing will follow, it is generally accepted that the memory of the dead and wounded calls for a day of thankfulness and religious observance. A union service will be held in Calvary Baptist Church with pastors participating and combined choirs. In fact, the choirs are preparing special music right now, to be sure that all is in readiness. It is expected to be a memorable occasion, and all hope that it will not be too long delayed.

PINK COAT MYSTERY SOLVED

It took little more than 48 hours after the last issue of the "News" appeared to solve the "pink coat mystery." Recall reading that the whereabouts of a pink coat left at the Calvary Baptist Church when the Eastern Star dined there, and then taken away by a friend who offered to trace the owner through the Eastern Star? Well, the coat is found and the coat returned to Mrs. Zulauf, the owner. It looks as if the some-folks read the "News" pretty thoroughly, too.

"DRUNK" VISITS CHURCH DURING NIGHT

An empty liquor bottle looked quite out of place on a recent Sunday morning when it was discovered perched beside the front steps of Calvary Baptist Church. But that wasn't "the half of it." Apparently the purchaser of the bottle decided to sleep it off inside the church, and found that the front doors were unlocked. So in he went and made his way to the vestibule outside the upstairs auditorium. His feet were weary, so he discarded his socks. Cigar ashes, as well as a crumpled cigar still in its cellophane wrapper, also were found. Moral: Keep the church doors locked; and for the offender, swear off the stuff that may make you feel like a new person but makes you act like an old fool.

OVER THE BUMPS

Delbert Conover decided he'd like to have a ride in a jeep, just in case the day is coming when they have one on the farm. So when he attended the Flemington Fair he was attracted by the offer of a free ride for every purchaser of a \$25 War bond. Delbert shelled out and away he went for the ride. And was it a ride! They went up and down inclines until the nose of the jeep was pointed almost straight up and down and some of the time Delbert was standing right up in the back seat. But he declares it was well worth it.

BUS BREAKDOWN

A Trenton Transit bus broke down right in front of Paul Cutter's drugstore on a recent Saturday night. The engine had overheated, as the woman driver soon discovered. So she asked Mr. Cutter if she could get some water. Being an up-to-date drugstore, he was prepared to supply most anything, of course. So a bucket was produced and the woman driver began to carry water. Nine buckets of it, imagine that, to satisfy it's thirst. But the overheating had produced sad results and still the bus did not start. Eventually, a repair car arrived and got the engine started.

HURRICANE EXPERIENCES

Although it's been more than three weeks since that hurricane hit New Jersey, all traces of the damage done have not been removed as yet. A lot of log-splitting and sawing is still in progress. On Princeton Avenue, just above Broad Street, a huge tree toppled half way over and hung there precariously with its roots half out of the ground and the upper half of the tree poised in a threatening position over the house where the John Willises live. Just this past week, steps have been taken to eliminate the danger.

The blinding rain and howling wind will be well remembered by Mrs. Albert Erickson and her sister, Mrs. Samuel Hixson. They had been to Red Cross and were trying to make home when their car stalled in front of Lamont Dye's driveway. They honked the horn and called out the car window "We're stuck!" Lamont went to the rescue and pushed their car into his garage. With kerosene, he dried out the points. Meanwhile, Mrs. Hixson had gone into the house and when told that all was in readiness started for the car, with a lap-robe over her head and shoulders. A strong gust of wind suddenly whipped the robe away and she was drenched in half a minute. But they started on their way, only to go a short distance before they were stalled again. According to reports, they sat it out for about an hour until the rain eased up and the car could be started again.

The Harold Johnsons also had an experience at Belmar, where they were vacationing. They were having supper when the hurricane hit the coast. Looking toward the boardwalk, a block or so away, they saw the waves coming right over it, and parts of it being carried away. They decided to move in a hurry. The DeValliores (Glen Moore) also were at the shore, about three or four blocks from the beach, so the Johnsons went in their direction and spent the night with them. Later, they learned that everyone in the block where the Johnsons had been staying, was evacuated from that area and part of the boardwalk had been carried close to the house where they had been staying.

TRAVELERS

About once a week, Sam Little boards the 12.57 train in Hopewell and rides to Skillman. Then he walks back to the Zion "Hollow" Road to sit down for a chat with Ed Ashton, crossing watchman at that point. Sam used to like to ride with Ed Ashton when the latter drove a taxi around town, so the new plan permits him to keep up his chats. Sometimes, Sam walks back to Skillman and gets back to town on the 4.49, or if a car comes along, he frequently gets a lift.

David Moore also likes to travel the same direction at times, but he usually walks out the tracks and more often than not, gets double exercise by walking back.

SPONSORS

You'll want to know the names of the friends sponsoring this issue. They are: Mrs. Walter Breese, Misses Anna, Elsie and Mary Snook, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Hill and Mrs. William N. Skillman.

(4)
WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Graham Fenson has won a promotion and is now a Corporal in the Marines. He also has made a jump across country, moving from Memphis, Tenn. to San Diego, Calif. He is taking advanced work in aviation mechanics. Concerning his trip, Graham has written: "Rode in air-conditioned Pullmans and had enjoyable trip. This California is a nice looking place. Plenty of sleep and plenty of sights."

Pvt. Paul C. Stryker was around town a short time back, coming in from California. He did not return there, being sent instead to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, to resume his training with a Field Artillery battery. He has had the odd experience of being in the Army for 15 months and only finishing basic training. That was because of an appendix operation, followed by the discovery that his jaw was in bad shape with an operation needed. So Paul went into the hospital at Santa Barbara for a second time and spent 10 weeks there, returning to Camp Roberts, Calif. where he attended clerk's school. Before he left there, he had a three week's "dental delay" and he was plagued with almost continuous K.P. during that time, usually being on duty from 4 A.M. to 9 or 10 P.M. Now he's up in the Ozark Mountains to see what comes next.

Bertha A. Sheppard, 2nd Lieut., is working on the surgical side in an Army base hospital in Italy. It's a strenuous life but she says it is agreeing with her. She was one who asked for overseas duty and she has had a good many months of it. But there is an occasional letup from work and she has visited Rome and also seen Mt. Vesuvius.

"Ken" Hullfish, who is in Navy Ship Repair Service at Pearl Harbor, seems to find himself more or less at the crossroads where occasionally you can spy an old friend or two. Apparently the ship carrying Bob Hill and Ray Burd gets in there once in a while for it is learned that the three of them have had a couple of so-called "hash" sessions when they could "re-hash" old times back in Hopewell. One night the trio got it arranged so they could take in a movie show together.

Ken Burroughs, 2nd Lieut., had a three-day visit home over Labor Day, then returned to Lincoln, Nebraska, but almost immediately moved to parts unknown, but with a New York APO. He wasn't sure whether he would be kept on a B-17 and go to England or be shifted to a B-29 Super-Fortress with additional training and then headed for the South Pacific or China. It looks as if ~~he~~ may be England.

"Reg" Hurley seems to have known what he was doing when he sought a transfer from his South Pacific outpost. For within two weeks he was promoted to be a Sergeant. He had spent about a year at his previous location, being one of a group of about 20 fellows with no chance of advancement. He is now with a Hdq. Battery, Coast Artillery, but his location is just a matter of speculation. His brother, Lawrence, Tec/4 in the Army Medical service, is now in France. John Dilts, Sgt. in a Night Fighter Squadron, is new in Italy.

Jehn "Jack" VanLieu is now in the China-Burma-India area with a Combat Cargo Group. "Outside of a few discomforts and inconveniences," he writes, "I am getting along fine. Censorship prevents me from telling of the many interesting experiences that I have had. Mail was always welcome and keeping in touch with my friends at home and in the church was important to me back in the States, but here their value is multiplied many, many times."

Harold Temple, 2nd Lieut., is believed to be based in New Guinea with the Troop Carrier Service. He advises that "while troops or cargo-carrying isn't quite like bombs, nevertheless we go into combat areas, as you have probably read in the papers." He has been hoping to go to Australia on leave. He also drops the word that he will do "no complaining if folks write an extra letter once in a while."

Cpl. Erwin Benson, of the paratroops, went out on night maneuvers recently and his group jumped from planes at 9 o'clock with no idea where they were being landed. It didn't take long to find out for they landed in a swamp, with tangled undergrowth and water up to his chest at the point where he descended. It took several hours for them to reach their objective, in most cases, and some didn't appear until morning. Erwin said he fared pretty well, only having a few scratches and three rips in his pants.....Pfc. George Everitt, and his wife, have been at home, a welcome change for them, particularly George who is assigned to a Prisoner of War Camp in Arizona.

Norman Hoagland, who is "Somewhere in Belgium," pens that "I am quite a ways from Broad and Greenwood. I have been all through France and even passed thru gay Paris. We are now bivouaced in a forest out of the way of everything. I have quite a bit of fun trying to speak French with the people here. We barter sweets and smokes for eggs and bread. We are living mostly on C and K rations so we look for anything that is different." He also said that he was where it was "as safe as a church." But he also corrected a report that he had been hospitalized, explaining that it was only an itch that gave him a little annoyance.

A letter from Bill Wyckoff, SM 3/c in the Navy, sounds as if he may have had a look at France. He says he has been seeing some new territory and "the country is much nicer and the people, too. We are being treated well by all. Am feeling great."

Pfc. Colin McBurney, out at Harvard, Nebraska with a Bomb Squadron, has been getting some electrical engineering, with a course in hydraulics before that. He says "They still keep us pretty busy out here but I expect there is plenty more to learn about these planes before we get to fight with them, although we feel we are ready now."

David Danberry, who was in a hospital in England for a time, is now learning to drive a truck, for duty along that line....Pvt. John B. Kirby has moved up to France after being in Italy and being among those who went in at Anzio.....Hilbert Hurley, who is in the LST branch of the Navy, has been shipped out, previously being at Chicago.

Cpl. John W. Flagg, with a Fighter Squadron, says he has had another "swell day" with Ken Hullfish. Ken took John to his place of work and explained a lot of things of interest.....Bill Sinclair, SK 3/c in the Navy, says he is "biding my time in Norfolk" but expects to be on the move before long.

CHURCH EVENTS

Over 70 sat down for the covered-dish supper held at Calvary Baptist Church in connection with the quarterly business meeting. The meal was declared to be one of the best yet. Some gazed in amazement at butter on the table, for it's been a scarce article of late. Pastor Gray presided in able manner at the business session. The Baptists take a lively interest in their church, you know, and are active and growing.Trustees have been making some improvements, re-painting the front steps, getting the heaters ready for Winter, working on the doors, etc. and other plans in the making....Several women of the church took part in a program dealing with "Thy Peace" at Somerville....Donald Allen made the grade with an interesting article in the hobby column of one of the denominational Bible School publications...."Parsonage pickles," the popular recipe that Mrs. Sylvia Johnston, wife of the former pastor, gave to Hopewell, have kept Cutter's Drug Store busy meeting requests for alum, which--believe it or not--is used in the recipe....The observance of World Communion Sunday on Oct. 1 was significant in this year's church history....Rally Day was another important event, with promotions in the Bible School and attendance in the church that rivaled the Easter turnout.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

One of Dr. Pierson's patients called at his office when the rush was over and "Doc" talked to him well on toward an hour before suddenly stopping to inquire: "Say, what was your reason for coming here?"....Some Junior Red Cross girls insist that they should meet with the regular Red Cross, one girl of 12 saying that "I'm as grown up now as I ever will be"....Dick Edling and his wife, Gladys, recently rated a page in "Better Homes and Gardens", an article telling how they turned a sidewall of their apartment when they lived at the Nickerson place into useful space. Dick built book-cases on each side of the fireplace, added storage cabinets, etc.....And Hopewell and vicinity also are used as the locale in a story running in the Ladies' Home Journal... Ed Savidge, newspaper publisher, was seen carrying two umbrellas, both opened up, on a recent rainy night....A lot of golfers have been putting in overtime lately with the season drawing to a close. One player, it is reported, lost a dollar ball on the sixth, another on the seventh and was again hunting on the tenth, then he gave up... Van Schomp took a fall out of R. P. Drake's truck and found himself in the hospital for a day or so, then recuperated at home....R. A. MacIntosh, the furniture man, was operated upon in New York for a mastoid condition...Mrs. Lou Etta Laning underwent an operation in Mercer Hospital, Trenton....Byron and Marie Embick, of Phila. and formerly Hopewell, have a baby daughter, weight 5½ lbs., named Christa Marie....The Bodines have moved from Burton Ave. to Front Street...Garrett Conover, Sr. has been doing his share of corn-husking this Fall, even though he passed his 86th birthday quite recently....Gloria Pessel, who studied at Hood College for two years, has transferred to Temple in Phila. to take a medical technician's course.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Saleslady (at greeting card counter) "Here's one with a lovely sentiment--
"To the One and Only Girl I Ever Loved."
Sailor: "Fine! I'll take a dozen!"

IN CLOSING

Thanks, pal, for staying with me clear through to the end. Hope you feel that you've really had something to take the place of a visit back home. At least, you've had the lowdown on some happenings.

Hope you'll check up on the address on the envelope--also drop me a few lines when you feel in the mood. Best of luck to you.

DEAN H. ASHTON.

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Barber: "I suppose you're going to give your consent for your daughter to marry young Goldbag?"

Customer (bubbling lather): "Not by a jugful. She'll be an allowable deduction on my income tax for two years yet."

"So you're the little girl I took to the candy store yesterday and bought an ice cream cone," said the new doctor.

"No, sir," said the truthful miss, "I'm just the little girl who heard about you."

Architect: "Can't you give me some idea of the general type of house you want to build, sir?"

Mr. Henpock: "Well, all I know is that it must go with an antique doorknob my wife bought in Vermont."

General Pershing has been quoted as saying:

"The Lord gave us two ends to use,
One to think with, one to sit with;
The war depends on which one we choose--
Heads we win, tails we lose."

Consider the plight of the average girl back home. Once she used to say: "What a man!" Then it became, "What, a man?" Now it's "What's a man?"

Diner: "I can't eat this soup."

Waiter: "Sorry, sir, I'll call the manager."

Diner: "Mr. Manager, I can't eat this soup."

Manager: "I'll call the chef."

Diner: "Mr. Chef, I can't eat this soup."

Chef: "What's wrong with it?"

Diner: "Nothing, I haven't any spoon."

A tourist was enjoying the wonders of California as pointed out by a native. As they passed through a citrus grove, the tourist remarked:

"What beautiful grapefruit."

"Oh, those lemons are a bit small because it's been a bad season," the Californian explained. When they came to a field, the tourist said:

"And what are those enormous blossoms?"

"Just a patch of dandelions," said the Californian.

Presently they reached the Sacramento River. By that time the tourist had caught on, so he remarked:

"And I suppose that is somebody's radiator leaking?"

A spinster living in a London suburb was shocked at the language used by two men repairing wires close to her home. She wrote to the company on the matter, and the foreman was asked to report. This he did, as follows:

"Me and Bill Fairweather were on this job. I was up the pole and accidentally let some hot lead fall on Bill; it went down his neck. Then Bill said: 'You really must be more careful, Harry.'"

"What kind of a fellow is Curley?"

"Well, the other night the lights went out in his girl's parlor and he spent the rest of the evening tinkering with the fuses."

Librarian: "It is time for closing now, sir. Is there anything you'd like to take out?"

Student: "Yes, there is. How about the blends in the blue dress?"

HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 15

Hopewell, N.J., October 31, 1944

29th Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Hello, everybody--and that comes from the "Hopewell News"--Hopewell's fastest growing newspaper, and from the Editor personally. Many letters have been received and quite a number remain unanswered to date. But there'll be a lull and the V-mail will be flying all directions soon again.

Sometimes, home folks seem to wonder why I give so much time to the "News." Several reasons might be given, but the easiest way to explain would be to quote from a letter received within the past few days. It speaks volumes. It comes from Cpl. Edward H. Esche, who is in New Guinea. He has been receiving one of the "passed on" copies. While Ed and I are not acquainted, this is what he writes:

"I thought I would drop you a few lines to tell you how much we boys in our company appreciate the "Hopewell News." In one edition, you asked about how many men in the service read your paper. I can say roughly that between 50 and 70 men in my company have read one or more copies. I would have it lying on my bunk when someone would come in my tent to ask for something and would pick up the paper and get very interested in it and would quite often forget what he had come in to see me about. Sometimes that was a good thing for otherwise I would have to leave my bunk and get them what they came after, as I am connected with supply work and they may come after something at any time. Your paper informs us about where our friends are in the service and in that way we can be on the lookout for them. Over here in New Guinea it is pretty hot most of the time but there are a few beautiful lakes and mountains, but not as nice as these back in the States. So in closing may I say, 'Keep up the good work and many thanks from the boys and myself.'"

Thanks, Ed--and here's telling you that a letter like that really helps to keep steam up in the boiler! Of course, I'm not overlooking the cash contributors back home, whose interest in this project has been amazing to me. Many have contributed twice, and as their names are reached, their assistance is acknowledged. The cost of this issue has been underwritten by Mrs. Charles Ockelmann and Mr. Paul Cutter.

RECREATION HALL DISCUSSED

Plans are being developed that may lead to the erection of a recreation center in Hopewell. Borough Council has named a Committee, and the School Board has done the same. Cash is available from the State to finance the preparation of plans, if the proposal is accepted as suitable for post-war action. As the name suggests, the building would provide a spot where the Borough's young people could meet, organize club groups, have parties, shows or drop in for an evening of reading, games or talk. The idea has been put over with great success in a number of communities, with the young people usually permitted to run the place, with a few adults as advisors.

The Borough Council committee also is considering plans for a new reservoir and street improvements. However, most folks who have given thought to the lack of a suitable place for the young people to have their fun, where all would feel free to gather, agree that a recreation center is urgently needed. However, some criticism has arisen, C. D. Deitzler, School Board member, had a letter published in the "Herald" in which he did not take a stand for or against the recreation hall project, but devoted attention to the question of the cost and the effect on the tax rate. He urged that a public meeting be held and an effort be made to find out whether the recreation center was the Borough's most urgent post-war need, and whether it was generally favored.

MR. WILGUS DEPARTS

While the selection of a new principal for Hopewell's Elementary School has not been announced, Mr. Charles M. Wilgus will complete his duties in that position today and go to Scotch Plains, near Plainfield, where he will be non-teaching principal of School No. 4. It is an advancement for him but the change came quite unexpectedly, as far as local residents were concerned. He was starting his third year here. A reception for the teaching staff, sponsored by the P.T.A., almost turned into a Wilgus farewell the other night.

DAUGHTER IN THE PARSONAGE

There's a wee baby now in the home of Pastor and Mrs. Gray. Mary Elizabeth, as she is known, arrived on Oct. 10th and weighed about 8 lbs., 6 ounces. After a stay of about 10 days in Mercer Hospital, Mother and Baby came home. Because of an ailment among infants, Trenton hospitals are taking extreme precautions and the Gray's physician directed that the same rules prevail until Mary Elizabeth is a month old. So the youngster is kept in her nursery, away from all who might want to hold her, kiss her or stand and admire. Mother and Baby are doing nicely--also Mr. Gray! It was quite an event for him, but friends came to his rescue as far as eating was concerned by inviting him out about every night while his wife was away. But when the family returned, then it was really something--assistance for his wife, disturbed sleep and worry every time the baby cried, as well as two sermons to mark Anniversary Sunday in the church, church bulletin to turn out as well as usual duties including teaching of the Men's Class, aiding Young People's group, etc. But despite it all, he thinks Mary Elizabeth is just about the nicest baby ever!

"DENNY" Van LIEW'S LEAVE ENDS

Take it from S/Sgt. Dennis P. VanLiew, it's great to be home. His 14-day furlough was extended for an additional ten days, all this added time being more than welcome since he had returned only recently from France. His stay at home gave him enough time to see how he could make out relying upon his left hand, and he found that he could do right well. In addition to driving a car, he helped to husk corn and did other work up on Leon Hill's farm. It may be that he will be out of the Army in a few weeks, then he plans to resume farming with his father-in-law.

Right now, "Denny" is back at Atlanta, Ga., in a hospital for an operation so he can be fitted with another useful arm. Once he has mastered the use of it, he will be ready for civilian life. Just how it all happened, "Denny" himself is unable to say. He was in an advanced position when a shell burst near him. He soon was aware that his arm was in bad shape and he was bleeding badly. As a matter of fact, the shell or fragment had carried away part of his arm above the elbow, so the surgeons had no choice but to amputate. In about an hour and a half, "Denny" had reached a hospital and the operation had taken place. In about eight hours he was on his way back to England. He was in three hospitals in England before being brought back to the U.S.A. "Denny" says that he has seen so many who fared worse than he, that he hasn't any right to complain. Maybe that middle name of his--Pershing--has had something to do in making him a good soldier.

WHAT'S UNLUCKY ABOUT 13?

Edgar Stout, who recently sold his grocery business at Harbourton, wasn't a bit afraid of the number "13" when he started in business--for it was March 13, 1913, and a Friday at that! But after almost 32 years of it, he concluded that he should take the doctor's advice and get ready to go to Florida. He has had quite a bit of trouble with asthma so he plans to remain in the South if the climate agrees with him. "I hate to leave all my friends here," he admits, but on the other hand, he has been to Florida before, likes to fish and knows his way around. Incidentally, he also has been Harbourton's Postmaster since 1913, starting that position on July 12th, 1913, but he also is giving up that position, of course.

CHURCH MARKS ANNIVERSARY

It was a sight to behold--the decorations placed on the platform of Calvary Baptist Church to give a "Harvest Festival" atmosphere for the evening service on Anniversary Sunday, Oct. 22nd. There were baskets of apples, potatoes, green peppers, ears of corn, pumpkins and bags of grain, as well as richly-colored Autumn leaves--abundant proof that America could well be grateful for rich harvests.

The Hopewell Grange attended as special guests and came in considerable number. They heard Pastor Gray preach an able sermon on "The Sower Went Forth." Miss Sadie Dansberry sang a fine solo, "The Living God" and the choir had a special anthem. At the morning service before another large congregation, Mr. Gray spoke on "Pressing On." It was so impressive that the suggestion was made that the sermon should be put in print for the permanent records. It was the 73rd anniversary of the church's founding. The "Harvest Festival" decorations were provided by the Hills, with the decorating job handled by Elsie and her husband, Dennis VanLiew, Blanche Hill Voorhees and Donald Hullfish.

FAST WORK

Forrest Lowe is well aware that the Merchant Marine really loses no time in handling its enlisted men. Forrest went to the Merchant Marine office last Thursday for examination. He was accepted and told that he would be notified when to report. In Friday's mail, he received word that he should report on Tuesday, Oct. 31. But late Friday, there came a telegram instructing him to report the next day! Forrest reported and is now in the Merchant Marine--but he had to leave without any opportunity to say goodbye to his friends.

BUNDLES DISAPPEAR

The Boy Scouts, who collect newspapers in Hopewell to aid the salvage drive and to make money for their Troop fund, had an unhappy surprise recently. A member of the boys made the rounds Saturday morning, gathering papers from homes and tying them in bundles, and then depositing them along the curb. In that way, they were to be ready for a truck to collect them during the afternoon. But when the truck made the rounds, the bundles had vanished! It developed that an out-of-town agency, also interested in raising funds, had come along and made a haul! The Troop Scoutmaster, Bob Copner, has asked Borough officials to cooperate so the boys don't have the same difficulty again.

MARION VOORHEES DIES

Friends of Marion Voorhees, former Hopewell plumber and heater man, were shocked by news of his death in Florida, five days after he and his wife had left here for the South. They had planned to stay there for the Winter, as in recent years but he became seriously ill and was rushed to the hospital in St. Petersburg and placed in an oxygen tent, but to no avail. He was buried at Highland Cemetery last Friday.

AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

Harry Hullfish likes to recall a prank that was played upon Jake Hortman by Harry Cox about 30 years ago. What a memory! It seems that the three of them went fishing along a brook. Jake felt weary after a while and stretched out to take a nap. There was a cow grazing in the pasture nearby. That gave Harry Cox an idea. So he went to driving the cow and after several attempts he managed to get the cow just about where he wanted it. The cow was standing so its head was almost over Jake Hortman's face. Then Harry Cox yelled: "Look out, Jake, for that bull!" Jake woke up, you can bet on that, and found himself looking into the cow's face--but that was no time to ascertain whether the rest of the animal was male or female. Hortman got out of there in a hurry--and Harry Hullfish and Harry Cox are still laughing about it.

PRIZES HIS BIKE

Gus Morrell frequently is seen spinning around town on his bicycle--a bike in which he takes special pride. It isn't the latest model--in fact its about 45 years old but there's a story connected with it. It seems that James Pierson gave a calf to Gus Morrell. Although the latter's father predicted that it would die, Gus reared it with great care and it began to develop. It became his pet but eventually a time came when it had to be sold. Gus parted with it reluctantly but the cash received enabled him to buy a bicycle--and that's the one he rides these days. "I prized that calf even more," he says, "for that calf learned to raise its foot as if it was going to be shod, and it even let me lie down beside it." As for the bicycle, Gus Morrell will agree that it doesn't have the same tires that came with the bike.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard, of the Army Nurses' Corps, reports that she has added another country to her list, now being in France. Previously she had been in Italy and North Africa. Her V-mail letter explains thus: "I am not at my permanent place yet and glad of it. We were living in mud and water in tents but have now been called on detached service with another unit. We do not know whether it is better or worse for we have a grand mix-up of patients. The place was formerly a German hospital and there are now Germans, French, Italians, Armenians and Americans, and probably others. France as a whole is a much cleaner place than Italy and there are some nice places to see."

Sgt. Lawrence B. Hurley, who is with a Medical battalion, also writes from "Somewhere in France" as follows: "I am well and in the best of health but we are kept busy most of the time. I have seen a little of France and what I have seen of it I like very much. The homes and other places are very old and very beautiful. I have taken some pictures of where I am located but won't be able to send them home until this is all over...it is a very beautiful Sunday morning, just like back home. The sun is shining on the mist, making all colors of the rainbow...Have thought of the church and the people I have left behind many times."

Arch Litzén, Aviation Mechanist's Mate, 2/c, in the Navy, writes from Seattle, Washington, where he is training with a new squadron prior to going aboard another ship. You'll recall that he was many months in the Pacific aboard an aircraft carrier that saw plenty of action. His old squadron was disbanded, about two-thirds going to a torpedo squadron peel and the other third (including Arch) forming the nucleus for the new outfit. Arch reports that Seattle is "a pretty fair town" and shore duty looks good after being at sea for a while.

WIRE TIPS IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell advises that "I have already seen some action (France) and been through my share of the artillery barrage and I've seen our planes dive-bomb and strafe the Jerries. It sure feels good to get that kind of support. That artillery is a wonderful thing also, when it's on your side. Enough of that.... We have had some movies in our bivouac area this past week and luckily I had not seen them while in the States, so I enjoyed them immensely...I have picked up enough of the French lingo to be able to make myself understood."

Cpl. Graham L. Benson, writes from San Diego: "So far since I went into the Marine Corps I have been going west. I think it will keep up for a while longer before I start moving Eastward. I have been standing by for orders that will send me to an advanced mechanic school or to the South Pacific. As you no doubt already know, I graduated from the Airplane Machinist's Mate School at Memphis, Tenn. and received my Corporal's stripe....I wish to thank you and all that have contributed to the upkeep of the "News" that you send to the servicemen. You would be surprised just how much that paper contributes to the war effort. Time for taps so will sign off for now."

Robert I. Hill, Fl/c, of the Navy, who is out in the Pacific, says: "Glad to hear that some of the fellows are still able to get around and visit the church once in a while. The way things are with us, it is quite impossible to get home and I know it will be quite awhile, too, before I am able to do it again....Keep the "News" coming because we really look forward to its arrival. Thank all the folks that help in any way to make it possible."

Pvt. John "Jack" F. VanLieu, who is in India with an Air Combat Cargo Group, writes: "A person has no conception of existing circumstances here until he has actually seen them, then he is sick of it. It is hard to believe that people can live in such filth on so little."

Pvt. Russell "Hoksey" Holcombe, Jr. has been home from Texas, this being his first visit since he went into the Army. He was hospitalized for a time, with his basic training delayed as a result.

William Johnson, who trained in California, is now out of the country, after coming East with his outfit.....Cpl. John W. Flagg, who is with a Fighter Squadron somewhere near Pearl Harbor, reports that he "saw Ron Hullfish again last week and was he surprised to see me. He thought I had left but you know how the Army is, someone is always changing his mind....It's been raining here all day for the first time in about six months."

M/Sgt Clarence H. Runyon, who has been based in Africa with an Army Air Force unit in the Transport Command service, has roamed thousands of miles over the sky lanes. He writes: "It is so gratifying to us so far away to know that the ones back home are interested enough in our welfare and happiness to take time out from their personal lives to drop a line and let us know they are thinking of us....We have been doing the same thing now for such an extended period of time that it is becoming monotonous. Actually I do not fully appreciate the many places I have visited and the sights and adventure I have experienced and no doubt I will not realize their full value till I have returned home. I have no desire to travel through Africa nor the Middle East any more for I have seen just about all there is in that direction. At the present time I am just awaiting that glorious trip Westward, which now is only a matter of time....It seems odd that I have never met anyone from the vicinity of home since I entered the service. However, with millions of boys in the service the chances are actually against meeting someone from home. As long as I am in this area, I would just as soon not meet anyone from home for this is far from being a healthy place to remain. So far I have been exceptionally fortunate in retaining my health, since I have been stationed here so long....I have visited some of the most beautiful cities in Africa, such as Durban and Capetown which, in my opinion, are as nice as any American city....It might seem odd but I very seldom complain about it. I want to get home as much as anyone but I realize that our present task is much more important than personal desires. During times which we are presently enduring we cannot think constantly about ourselves for the outcome of our present struggle will mean either happiness or hardships to future generations. I'm willing to go wherever and whenever I can be of any assistance in achieving our goal of ultimate victory. I would sooner remain over here for five years than to ever have to see any of my children endure the hardships of another war. Of course, we are dreaming of returning to loved ones and family, but I am willing to accept the decisions of our leaders and the will of God. If it is God's will that I return to the States within the near future it would make me very happy, but if it is His will that I remain overseas longer I will accept it with a smile."

Alan P. Hart, who is in the China-Burma-India area, has been advanced to a Sergeant.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A man obtained a job in Washington but found it difficult to acquire the language of the New Deal readily. While dictating a letter to his stenographer, he asked:

"Do you 'retire a loan?'"

Her reply was: "No, I sleep with Mama!"

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Campaigners for the USO Fund are busy around town, with more than half of the \$2,000 goal already obtained. Kenneth Williamson heads the corps of workers..... Dezzie Casey made a round-trip by plane recently to visit relatives in Texas..... Little is taking good care of the clock in the Cox & Gray barber shop, winding it first thing every morning so--as he explains it--"they won't go right on working after closing time, as they might do otherwise.".....The Boy Scout Troop committee has been undergoing change and a new group of interested people is being lined up.

The other night, a man stood on the station platform waving frantically as the 10.10 train pulled in. Just in time to catch the train, a girl came racing out of the darkness, carrying ice cream cones. She had been over to Ewing's store and as a result, almost missed the train....Speaking of trains, there's a good-natured conductor on the 8.25 A. M. train out of Hopewell who uses a cloth to wipe off the handrails of the passenger coach at almost every station before the passengers climb aboard...

The Roundabouts held a Hallowe'en party at the home of Mrs. Spencer Moore... Israel Temple, who had lived most of his life at Mount Rose, died recently. He was the father of Edgar Temple, and grandfather of Vernon and Harold Temple.

CHURCH EVENTS

The Hallowe'en party of the Calvary Baptist Bible School was described as a "howling success," with a large turnout and a fine lot of fun unmasking and playing games. Prizes went to Arlene Patterson and Martha Schmeiss....Women of the church are getting ready for the annual chicken supper and are preparing to feed the largest crowd ever....On Anniversary Sunday, a special collection of about \$120. was received. The Baptist State Convention was held in Trenton Oct. 23-25 and there were 25 Baptists from Hopewell who attended sessions.

The Men's Group of Calvary Baptist Church have added another shuffleboard court and are ready for a lot of good times. Harry Cox and Harry Gray have made available a ping-pong table, too. On Nov. 6, the group will have wives and friends as guests and view a moving picture, while on Nov. 20th, a pancake-and-sausage supper (for men only) is planned.....N. Vance Johnston, former pastor here, was in town, being entertained while attending the State Convention in Trenton.

AN EARLY MORNING THOUGHT

You may recall that a recent issue of the "Hopewell News" carried an inspiring prayer by Dr. John Baillie--who seems to be able to put in words the thoughts that come right from the heart. Here is another that is worth reading over and over:

"Give me, O God, this day a strong and vivid sense that Thou art by my side. In multitude and solitude, in business and leisure, in my downsitting and my uprising, may I ever be aware of Thine accompanying presence. By Thy grace, O God, I will go nowhere this day where Thou canst not come, nor court any companionship that would rob me of Thine. By Thy grace, I will let no thought enter into my heart that might hinder my communion with Thee, nor let any word come from my mouth that is not meant for Thine ear. So shall my courage be firm and my heart be at peace."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

First Soloist: "Did you notice how my voice filled the hall tonight?"
Second Singer: "I noticed several people leaving to make room for it."

Customer: "Have you a book entitled, "Man, the Master of the Home?"
Clerk: "The fiction department is on the other side, sir."

A train was approaching.

"Here she comes," said Dennis.

"Here it comes, you mean," said Cassy.

"You're both wrong," said Murphy. "It's a mail train."

It was the first time that her husband became sick, and the recent bride wasn't at all sure about the way to read the fever thermometer. She took one look at it, then rushed to the phone.

"Doctor!" she exclaimed, "my husband has a temperature of 120!"

"Then send for the fire-engine, I can do no good," was the reply.

Husband: "What kind of an affair is this we're going to?"

Wife: "A reception, dear."

Husband: "I see. The women will be there in force and the men by force."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE (continued)Marriage Ceremony For A Sailor

"Wilt thou, Jack, have this woman as thy wedded wife, to live together insofar as the Bureau of Navigation will allow? Wilt thou love her, comfort, honor and keep her, take her to the movies and come home regularly to her on the 4.30 bus?"

"I will."

"Wilt thou, Jane, have this sailor as thy wedded husband, bearing in mind liberty hours, boat schedules, watches, sudden orders, uncertain mail communications, and all the other penalties of Navy life? Wilt thou obey him, honor him and wait for him, press his uniforms and let him smoke Navy Plug in the house?"

"I will."

"I, Jack, take thee, Jane, as my wedded wife from 4.30 P.M. until 8 A. M., as far as permitted by the Commanding Officer, liberty subject to change without notice, for better or worse, for earlier, for later, and I promise to send thee a weekly letter when at sea."

"I, Jane, take thee, Jack, as my wedded husband, subject to the whims of the Officer-of-the-deck, changing residence whenever the ship moves, to have and to hold just as long as my allotment comes regularly, and therefore I give thee my troth."

Private: "Why does the cook call this enthusiastic stew?"
Second Soldier: "Because he puts everything he has into it."

What's that ribbon you're wearing?"

"I wear that for saving a girl."

"How did you save a girl?"

"Well, last night I had two girls, and I saved one for tonight."

A Scotchman was engaged in an argument with a conductor as to whether the fare was 25 cents or 30 cents. Finally, the disgusted conductor picked up the Scotchman's suitcase and tossed it off the train, just as they passed over a bridge.

"Mon," screamed Sandy, "isn't it enough to try to overcharge me, but now you try to drown my little boy!"

"What's the matter with your wife? She's all broken up lately."

"She get a terrible shock."

"Why, what has happened?"

"Why, she was assisting at the rummage sale, took off her new hat, and somebody sold it for thirty-five cents."

IN CLOSING

And there you have it--another issue of the "Hopewell News" is just about at the stopping point. Hope you've enjoyed it. If and when you feel in the mood to write a little letter, reporting about yourself, it will be a pleasure to hear from you. I cannot promise to answer every letter received but if the "News" continues to come your way, you'll know that you haven't been forgotten.

Carry on--with the best of luck to you.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON.

97 W. Broad Street
Hopewell, New Jersey

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. II, No. 16

Hopewell, N. J., November 21, 1944

30th Issue

AROUND THE GLOBE

A startling figure came into my possession the other day. How many Hopewell fellows are overseas, would you say? About a month ago, the total was 93 and by this time, it probably has passed 100!

When a community of the size of Hopewell, whose population in 1940 was 1,678 (and the U.S. Census usually isn't kidding) has about 100 residents who are scattered all over the globe, it's highly significant. In all likelihood, only two or three of that number would have left the good old U.S.A. during their lifetime. But the war made a difference and they have seen Australia, New Guinea, the Hawaiians, Saipan, Tinian, the Marianas, China, Burma, India, Africa, Italy, Malta, Sardinia, France, Greece, Greenland, Holland, Belgium, Bulgaria, England and other countries. In addition to this group of 100, scores of others have traveled widely over the United States. Something is bound to happen to Hopewell and its way of thinking--as in every community--when these fellows come home. Some may say, "I'm sick of the whole mess--I want to live my own life and the rest of the world will have to take care of itself." Others will bring back a different story. They will realize that our security, our economic advancement, our happiness--as individuals and as a nation--are bound up definitely with what takes place in the rest of the world. Fortunately, many of the home folk already have captured that wider vision too--partly because they have been poring over their world maps but also because someone from home is at some distant spot and his safe return depends upon what conditions exist out there.

Beyond a doubt, we will have a wider outlook and be a lot more concerned about what goes on elsewhere in the world.

HOW WE DO GROW:

With this issue, the "Hopewell News" takes another upward leap in its flung circulation. Every Hopewell fellow who is in military service is being provided with a copy of this issue and will receive it regularly henceforth. It had been hoped for some time that some plan could be worked out so this could be accomplished. Folks kept saying that it would be great if it could be done but there was a limit as to what the Editor could attempt.

It remained for Mrs. Walter Benson to solve the problem. She discussed it with the women of the Comrades' Class of the Bible School in Calvary Baptist Church. They agreed to meet the expense for envelopes and stamps if Mrs. Benson would assemble and handle the address list and take charge of getting the extra copies out.

This splendid display of interest on the part of the Comrades' Class and by Mrs. Benson in particular will be appreciated wherever the "News" reaches. To those now reading the "News" for the first time, we say "Glad you can be with us, and hope you enjoy it." Do you ask why the women's class is doing this? Well, church folk are usually like that--eager to do something for others, putting their religion to work.

HOME AGAIN

Two fellows with sharply contrasting stories about war experiences have returned to Hopewell on furlough. They are Ed Sheppard, Corporal in the Marine Corps, who has been in on the seizure of islands in the Pacific, and Tony Castora, who has been stationed in a lonely outpost in Greenland. Castora belonged to a small group who received their supplies from passing planes, as a ship reached them only about once a year. One fellow in their group had \$1.25 in his pocket when he arrived and he still had it when they came out.

Ed Sheppard, on the other hand, has endured torrid climate, seen native life and faced all sorts of danger in the thick of the fighting and "mopping up" in territory that was held by the Japs. He was on Saipan where the Marines took only five days to win control, after which they went aboard ship and moved swiftly to Tinian to repeat the operation with similar success. (continued on next page)

Ed said that the natives he saw on the islands were great scavengers. They gathered up every fragment of food, remnants of ration cans and even fish-heads, then cooked it all up in one mess to make a meal of it. "We let them drag all that stuff in, if they wanted it," Ed explains, "for that shortened up our mess line that much more." But Ed has no enthusiasm about staying any length of time in such country. As he commented: "I didn't take anything out and I didn't bring anything back; there's nothing out there I want and so there's nothing that I want to go back for."

Yet Ed admits that Hopewell isn't the liveliest place right now, because all the fellows he knew are in military service. He has been spending most of his time with his married sister who lives at Robbinsville.

NEWSPAPER BUSINESS SOLD

Mrs. W. J. Braunworth has sold out the newspaper business which has been run many years under the family name. Since the death of her husband, she has conducted the business from her home at 25 Blackwell Avenue. The purchaser is a Mr. Fuoss (pronounced "Fooso"-- unlike the name of the Methodist minister here). Mr. Fuoss is a nephew of Walter, Lawyer, and is coming with his bride. It is understood that they will continue the newspaper routes from the present address until he can get re-located. Mrs. Braunworth also is selling out her line of groceries.

MOVING AROUND

Every week, word comes of fellows moving to more distant places. For example, Cpl. Graham L. Benson, of the Marine Corps, has sailed from California, with destination unknown. Sgt. Charles "Reg" Hurley, is able to reveal that he is in the Mariana Islands in the Pacific. Also, it is learned that Sgt. John W. Dilts has moved from Italy and is now in India.

Graham, an Aviation Machinist Mate, had been at San Diego, Calif. after leaving Memphis, Tenn. He wrote as follows from aboard ship: "This is one way to see the world and get paid for it at the same time. So far it has been a pleasant trip except that I was seasick. But I feel pretty good today. The reason I had it so bad was that I missed the first couple of meals after we left the harbor. That is one thing that you never want to do--miss a meal and you just have to force the next one down.... We still don't know where we are going and even if I did, the censors would never allow it to pass. I don't know where or when this letter will get mailed but they said today that we might get the chance to have them mailed soon.... Don't forget to get my guns oiled up. I'll be wanting to use them when I get back.... Strange things really happen, for instance, some guys left Memphis, Tenn. before we did and then some left after us and now they are on this ship with me... Two sheets of paper is the limit so will sign off for now."

"Reg" Hurley, for whom things began to happen as soon as he succeeded in being transferred to a different Coast Artillery outfit, wrote on Nov. 8th from the Mariana Islands, as follows: "I have been all over this Pacific Ocean, made a stop or two and now I am here. I cannot tell you the exact spot but can say I am in the Marianas some place. I'll tell you something of this island. It is about one-third the size of the place I was stationed so long before. A lot of mountains, swamps and beaches. It is very hot and humid with rain for a minute and sun the next. If you are not wet from perspiration, you are wet from rain; in other words, you are steaming most of the time. We live in pup tents, eat C, K and 10-to-1 rations, and I can't say much for them; in fact, I can hardly eat them as beans and hash just do not appeal to me for breakfast.... There is quite a bit of disease here but if a person is careful he need not worry. Quite a few wild water-buffalo roam around and the natives domesticate them and use them as beasts of burden. The natives live in grass shacks... The Japs had a pretty good hold on this place and they treated the natives terrible. That is past history now and there are only a very few left here now and in a short time they will be wiped out and the sooner the better. If I have griped a lot in this letter, forgive me as I was just trying to give you the set-up here. Hope you are able to read this as candle-light isn't the best thing to write by." (A drop of wax on one of the pages of his letter was unmistakable proof of that statement.)

Thomas Pessel has enlisted and is now at Parris Island, S.C. taking Marine Corps training. These serious injuries to his neck and back many months ago when a Vandoren delivery truck overturned near Blawenburg while Tom was driving apparently have cleared up quite satisfactorily, although he required extended treatment.

George O. Phillips, S.F. 1/c, is beginning to think that the Navy intends to keep him going in circles. He has been in recent months in Davisville, R.I., Sampson, N.Y., Lido Beach, Long Island, and now has just been transferred to Newport, R. I. It probably is due to his mechanical skill, although he still wishes that he would get a chance to serve aboard a ship that comes in contact with the Japs.

Sgt. Wilbur Lowe is reported as being in Bulgaria.... Paul Cutter, Jr. is in India and says he cannot tell where and the name of it was never heard before in Hopewell, anyway.... Russell "Hokey" Holcombe, Jr. has moved out, destination unrevealed.

GUNNING SEASON OPENS

They've been banging away "up on the mountain," in fields and meadows, with the rabbits and pheasants putting meat on the table in the home of many a successful gunner. John Riley had some extra good luck, getting a shot at a gray fox and bagging it. That was up on the Emily Whitehead place on the mountain. They also tell a story about a "gunner who went up a tree to look for rabbits" (and according to reports the man resembled Russell Riley, and the explanation given was that he climbed in order to study the possible hideouts in that particular area.

While on a gunning trip on the opening day of the season, John F. Dumn, of Columbia Ave., became over-exhausted and was rushed home, but died before a physician arrived. He was only 36 years of age.....A gunning mishap caused an injury to Alvah Voorhees, Jr., who was hit by pellets of shot that ricocheted from a rock after his father, Alvah, Sr. had shot at a rabbit. Medical care was necessary.

ELECTION RESULTS

It was quite an election and Roosevelt won, as you may have heard. As a matter of fact, school children don't know what it would be like to have anyone else as President. The vote was very heavy. In Hopewell, 917 went to the polls out of a registration of 1,065. Don Guinness, who aspired to a seat in Congress, ran several times and behind D. Lane Powers. For Joseph W. Pierson, Hopewell Borough Clerk, it didn't turn out so well, either. He sought a seat in the Assembly but Democrats gained all three seats from Mercer County.

The new State Constitution also fared badly, and the failure to adopt it made Joseph Pierson a little less disappointed about his own setback. For if it had been approved, he would have had a term of two years at \$2,000 a year, while those who did win will hold office under the old Constitution with a term of one year and a \$500 paycheck.

The Democrats have been telling a story about Republicans who had vowed that they would "eat" their hats if Roosevelt won. Since he did just that, the story goes that since Election Day, a lot of Republicans, upon meeting their friends, tip their stomachs!

WAILING SIREN

The town fire siren--which makes life miserable for folks who live near the Firehouse and yet cannot be heard very well on the outskirts of town--has been having quite a workout lately. On the day after Election, three calls occurred, but the blazes were not serious, one being in Larason's garage apartment, one near Ziegler's and the other at Denahue's. Again, burning leaves back of Holcombe's antique shop, across Greenwood Avenue from the bank, caused another scare.

But the delay in getting a fire hydrant replaced in front of Holcombe's--in the very heart of town--is causing greater concern--as well as a story that has come to light about a recent occurrence involving a fire hydrant that refused to deliver a stream of water. The hydrant at Bread and Greenwood has been gone since Oct. 29th, --three weeks--being removed after a car knocked it askew after a collision on that corner. The nearest hydrants are about a block away and that is the area where the largest buildings in town are located.

The other incident, involving a "dry" fireplug, occurred several weeks ago and a checkup revealed that the pipeline was choked with mud. That was corrected but it would have been a sad discovery if the water supply had been urgently needed.

SCHOOL PRINCIPALSHIP STILL VACANT

The principalship of the Elementary School remains to be filled, although the School Board is said to have made two selections, only to have the applicants take places elsewhere. Meanwhile, Mrs. Margaret Lawson is serving as Acting Principal.

The former principal, Charles Wilgus, has now located a home at Scotch Plains where he went about a month ago and moves his family from Hopewell within a few days. His residence here will be occupied by the William Macneils, who have been living on West Prospect Street.

VERNON TEMPLE WEDS

Vernon I. Temple, M.M.3/c in the Navy, whose ship has a Pacific run that brings him occasionally into California, was married on Oct. 19th to Miss Wilma Grube, of California (near High Bridge). Vernon has not been able to get home for many months but it was arranged for his bride-to-be to go to California and they were married in a "Y" Chapel at San Francisco. Rev. Graf, a Baptist minister, conducted the ceremony, which was complete even to a soloist who sang "Because"; double-ring ceremony, reception and picture-taking, and of course, rice and confetti. Before entering the Navy, Vernon had worked at H.A. Smith's here. His bride is a graduate of Somerset Hospital at Somerville.

SPONSORS OF THIS ISSUE

This issue of the "News" is sponsored by the following--as a friendly act in behalf of those in the service: Mrs. Lou Etta Laning, Russell Holcombe, Postmaster Merritt McAllinden and Mrs. C. E. Ahter.

SUPPERS--CHICKEN AND OYSTER

The women of Calvary Baptist Church served their annual chicken supper on Nov. 11th to a rousing big crowd--about three hundred. With quite a quantity of the materials donated, the profit reached about \$250. Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Jr. and Mrs. Harry Hullfish served as co-chairman, while Mrs. Leigh Hurley had charge of the dining room. It was another case of folks pitching in and making a grand success of an undertaking that involves a lot of hard work.

The Grange also held its annual oyster supper recently and was hard put to feed all comers. In fact, thirty or more just couldn't be served, and those who had worked had scanty pickings, although additional oysters and other supplies were rushed in. Either the patrons were hungrier or--more logically--the oysters were smaller this year. But the potato salad and other items also went rapidly and potato chips had to be substituted. Mrs. Clarence Hixson, of Stoutsburg, who had fried oysters for 14 years in a row, missed out this year, due to the death of a relative.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. J. Walter Knorr was wounded in France and is now hospitalized in England. His leg was injured but he reports satisfactory progress.....Lieut. James C. Carter, formerly of Pennington who is engaged to Claire Morrell, was flown back from England to continue his recuperation at Atlantic City. He sustained the loss of his left foot and chest injuries during action in France. On the way back from England, the plane landed in Maine and it was from there that he phoned Claire. More recently he has been in Hopewell on furlough.....Harry Loveless, husband of Marie Bregesser Loveless, is in a hospital (England) but getting around quite well since his right arm was removed from its cast. He suffered shrapnel wounds about the face and leg, but he reports that these were not serious. However, one large piece of shrapnel went through his arm and fractured it. At the time, he was riding in a half-track just outside Paris when the truck was hit by an 88 mm. shell, which blew it up.

Pvt. Leonard W. Vandewater has moved from Camp Croft, S.C. to Camp Stewart, Georgia.....Carl Hillman, who is out in the Pacific, thought he would have a chance to see his old school chum, "Reg" Hurley. In fact, he had a visit all planned, then on the day before they were to meet, "Reg" changed to a new outfit and was moved elsewhere.....Lieut. (j.g.) Edward M. Haynes, Jr. is now stationed in Washington, D. C.

Pvt. Harry McCandless, at Camp Roberts, Calif., states that "We work hard, we sleep hard, we play hard and we eat hard." Lately, he has been going out on bivouac weekly, leaving Monday night and returning Thursday, sleeping meanwhile in a pup tent and working with radio equipment. He's learning how the firing of artillery can be coordinated so an entire division lets go at one time. Harry says the training is "fun" but the "California dew" is something else. He has learned to sleep as comfortably on the ground as in bed, putting six inches of Spanish moss, a raincoat and three blankets under and over him. On the trips, he drives a truck load of radio equipment.

Pfc. Thomas W. McCandless, who is with an AAF Base Unit at Abilene, Texas, had an "invite" to Sunday dinner with a buddy who knew a family nearby. "We had quite a meal," Tom says "--fried chicken." Later, they inspected the 300-acre farm, where they raise cotton, maize, buckwheat and okra. He saw a jack-rabbit "as big as a young deer" and he didn't know what it was at first. The steers and cows and four horses stay out all year, the only sheds being for the tractor and equipment.

S/Sgt. Harold P. Johnson, known to many as "Butch" in the American Store where he worked for seven years, has now been in England over 18 months. He is with a Bomb Group and his job is "helping to send them over." Previously he trained for about a year in the U.S., learning to take care of the Flying Fortresses. For about five months, he has been assigned to a ship that his group has named "Destiny's Tot" and she has credit for 80 missions over enemy territory, making her first trip on D-Day. His division has received a Presidential citation of which all are proud.

Sgt. Bruce H. Cray has had an opportunity to visit Southampton, glimpse Oxford University and tour London. He also arranged in some way for a 200-mile ride in a jeep across country while off duty from the hospital where he is assigned.....Bill Ashton, who is getting education and training at Virginia Military Institute, has gained 15 pounds. He recently had a week at home between terms.....Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, of the paratroops, is at home on a 12-day furlough, although he had fully expected to be "on his way," having sent back most of his things three weeks ago..Lieut. Earl F. Mickerson, Jr., who had 29 combat missions in the New Guinea war zone, has completed a course for Army Air Force instructors in advanced combat training technique. He holds the Air Medal, Distinguished Service badge as well as a unit citation.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Pvt. Norman Horeland writes from "Somewhere in Holland" and says that his Field Artillery battalion "is letting old Schikelgruber know that we are around." He continues; "I can't tell you my exact location but we are up in there where we can swing both fists. Of course, firing a field artillery piece is not exactly like firing an M-1 insofar as seeing your shots land but nevertheless I am sure we are making things uncomfortable for Jerry....Holland is a nice little country, not what you would call pretty as regards landscape but the neatness and cleanliness is very striking. The little brick homes are quite modern and one wouldn't look at all out of place at home. The Dutch people are a very industrious lot. In most places they already have started to repair the damage done by shot and shell...The kiddies are cute in their gaily colored wooden shoes and blue Dutch suits. They all have clear blue eyes, blonde hair and pink complexions." Norman also has written how he gave candy to some of the children, who came back shortly to reward him with two eggs. So then Norman and some of his pals sat down with the children and shared cookies and jam with them.

In a letter from England, Pvt. Harry J. Erickson (Field Artillery) says; "I have been here two weeks (writing on Oct. 29th) and what I have seen of the country has suited me fine. One of the larger cities I have been to was Liverpool. I hope to go to London in the near future....The situation here seems to be fairly settled, to my knowledge. My abode is shared with 14 others; electric lights, a small stove and wooden cots with straw mattresses add to our comfort...We find the people quite hospitable."

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry) writes; "Seems like every time I write, I have moved. This time it is France. I have picked up enough of the French lingo to be able to make myself understood."

Pvt. William S. Conover, who was at Camp Stewart, Ga., has been transferred to Camp Howze, Texas.....Cpl. John W. Flagg, who is out in the Pacific with a Fighter Squadron says that the current price for grass skirts is \$35 per. While he says they are beautiful, he adds that "I couldn't see that much in one of those grass skirts."

Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs (Army Air Corps) has been getting advanced training in England and expects assignment to an American base....Capt. John H. Ginter, Army Air Corps chaplain, took a special course recently at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, Texas.....Forrest Lowe (Merchant Marine) was in town over the week-end, looking trim in his dark blue uniform.....Raymond VanArsdale, A/S, is taking "boot" training at the U.S. Maritime Service station at Sheepshead Bay, N.Y.....Pvt. Jame .Hall (Anti-Aircraft) met up with a scorpion while in the Georgia swamps, near Camp Stewart, and required hospital care .

A/C William G. Lowe tells of continued progress at Midland, Texas, reporting; "I'm in advanced bombardiering now and over half-way through the course. We came here from gunnery at Harlingen, Texas, on August 28th. We've finished most of our bombing and I came through that part of it okay. Navigation is just about all that's left but I guess that will keep us busy. This bombardier's course is a little rougher than some of us had expected. I hope to get through it. We are scheduled to graduate and receive our commissions Dec. 29th. Then, if luck is with me, I hope to be coming home for a few days, anyway."

William H. Wyckoff, SM 3/c, who may be in Southern French waters or shore, says; "It was a surprise to hear of Lawrence Hurley and Ernest Blackwell being over here. I certainly would like to meet up with them over here. So far, during my 28 months in the Navy, I have not met but one fellow from home. I'm going to keep an eye open in the future and hope I stray upon some of them....I have been seeing some new and beautiful country. I find the people in this part of the world trying to copy after us back home and doing very nicely at it. Of course, they're not quite up to date but are trying hard to be modern....I read the "News" over several times. It seems you're excited upon their arrival and read them over hurriedly and skip over a few things of interest. But by going back at least the second time, you finally end up memorizing some of it, practically."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

An old sea-captain was quizzing a young Naval student.

"What would you do if a sudden storm came up on the starboard?" he asked.

"Throw out an anchor, sir," the student replied.

"What would you do if another storm sprang aft?"

"Throw out another anchor, sir."

"And if another terrific storm sprang forward, what would you do?"

"Throw out another anchor."

"Hold on! Where are you getting all your anchors?"

"From the same place you're getting your storms, sir," was the reply.

CHURCH DOINGS

The Thanksgiving union service is being held in Calvary Baptist Church this year. As an innovation, the service is on Wednesday night, as many people will be working on the holiday date. Rev. H.R. Fuss, of the Methodist Church, will preach.The Anniversary offering taken in Calvary Baptist Church exceeded \$120..... Twenty-six from Hopewell attended a session of the Central Baptist Association held at Somerville on Nov. 14th to hear addresses concerning "The Great Commission" to "go...make disciples...and teach.".....Improvements continue around the church, the latest jobs including re-painting of stairway to the choir loft and installation of stair treads (pre-war stuff, honest).....Mrs. Amos Williamson heard "Happy Birthday" sung in her honor by the Bible School when she jokingly asked if it was going to be done....Miss Sadie Dansberry, completing secretarial courses in Phila., has taken a job (no--a position) in that city.....Mary Elizabeth, infant daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Gray, is making progress.....It is reported that her Father's first purchase after the arrival of the youngster was a bristle hair-brush of suitable width..... The Beginners' Department of the Bible School has grown so big that additional chairs had to be purchased. While the non-delivery of the chairs was causing some concern, it was discovered that the expressman had left them at Rorer's Hardware store by mistake.....The Community Vacation Bible School hasn't been forgotten since last Summer, two or three youngsters already asking when it's to be held again, and recently while a rummage sale was in progress in the church basement, one small youngster came in and asked if she could sit in the same chair she had occupied when the Summer Vacation School was in progress.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Mayor Metz has sold his sleek blue car in which he cruised around town..... Borough Council has decided to move the hearings held in the Recorder's Court by Ed Whitehead from his residence to Borough Hall.....A boost in pay has been provided by the Borough rulers for William C. Corbett, assessor, who now will receive \$350 a year.Mr. Righter is reported as having won \$3,000 in a lottery...Russell Sheppard is working these days down at Bill Weart's.....Doc Stults won a prize at a recent Masonic affair but almost "lost" his wife, for when he went up front to get the award he started back in the wrong aisle and couldn't locate his better-half until friends set him straight....

Football is "out" at the Elementary School, for Bob Leigh broke his thumb and then a few days later in a football scrimmage, broke his collarbone.....Lois W. Hoff has succeeded in qualifying as a drum majorette at Princeton High.....Paul Ashton, who has been studying at Drexel, in Phila., recently was one of a half-dozen students who had a one-night job at a Phila. performance by the Metropolitan Opera Company..... Delbert Gonover was tendered a surprise Hallowe'en party, and when he opened the door and found a host of his friends confronting him, he invited them in and rushed to the kitchen for an aspirin!Mrs. Golden, grandmother to Mrs. Spencer Moore, was given a birthday party to mark her 90th birthday. She had been told two years ago that if she lived to be 90, it would be arranged and with her consent, it was made a Hallowe'en event. About 80 attended, and as spry as any of her guests, she enjoyed it immensely, even the taking of movies of the event.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Scene: Train compartment enroute to Berlin.

Cast: Nazi officer, Polish civilian, elderly lady and attractive gal.

Action: Train enters tunnel. Passengers hear a very audible kiss, then a vigorous slap. Train emerges, everyone silent. Nazi has big black eye.

The old lady thinks: "What a good girl that pretty miss is. Fine moral character, and won't stand for that sort of thing."

The girl thinks: "Isn't it odd that the German officer tried to kiss that old lady and not me."

The German officer thinks: "That Pole is a smart fellow--he steals a kiss in the dark and I get punched."

The Pole thinks: "What an angle! I kiss the back of my hand, sock a no-good Nazi officer, and get away with it!"

Professor: "What is the penalty for bigamy?"

Law Student: "Two mothers-in-law."

IN CLOSING

If this issue seems to be chockful of news, it's largely due to the many fine letters that come my way. They contain those personal comments that make them eagerly sought. Keep up the good work, and we here at home will keep the "News" coming. Also be sure to send word if you change address. Best of luck to you.

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

DEAN H. ASHTON.

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor

VOL. II, No. 17

Hopewell, N. J., December 13, 1944

31st Issue



CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

The calendar shows, as this is being written, that Christmas is less than two weeks away. Some who receive this issue are only a few hundred miles distant and it will reach them before the holidays; others who are thousands of miles from home will be reading these lines somewhat later. Surely then it must be apparent that the well-wishes now being conveyed are not for a day--the 25th of December--but for every day of the New Year.

Despite the fact that most families cannot be together, we have excellent cause for continuing to view the Christmas season with joyousness. The birth of the Christ-child alone is enough to fill us with awe and gratitude for the great promise if we follow His teachings. Again, we can rejoice that through Him we have faith that will carry us through;

courage to face the difficult tasks, and confidence that He will speed the victory and "Peace on earth, good-will toward men" come nearer to being a reality. Let no one be sad on Christmas Day--it is a day of rejoicing.

And the New Year surely can be regarded with great expectancy, for brighter happier days are owing--days that only a poet can describe. These lines describe the challenge of those days, a poem by Joseph Auslander:

"What will the world be like that breathless day
When Peace is cried out, unbelievable Peace?
In all the lands, on all the seven seas
What will the people do, what will they say?
Will some fall down upon their knees and pray:
Will some walk weeping under the old trees?
Will some choke up all heavy with heart's ease?
Will some stand still, and stare, and turn away?

Almost we are afraid of that strange morning--
And who shall wash from time man's epitaph?
The grass runs from the wind as though in warning;
The children have forgotten how to laugh...
Come, Peace, grant us the strength War wakes in men
To build a world War cannot scourge again.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES

Special plans are being made by all of Hopewell's churches for the observance of Christmas. These grand old Christmas melodies will be sung over and over, the Christmas story will be reemphasized and it will be the most important day of the year as it deserves to be. Each of the Sunday Schools will hold special entertainments.

An unusual service will be held on Sunday, Dec. 24, in Calvary Baptist Church. It will be a candlelight vesper service at 4 P. M., and the beautiful story written by Henry VanDyke entitled "The Other Wise Man" will be read by the Pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray. The special music will include the solo, "O Holy Night," sung by Miss Sadie Dansberry, an annual custom without which the occasion would not be complete. The Bible School program will be given on Friday, Dec. 22nd, with a play called "What the Stars Saw," to be followed by the arrival of Santa Claus and the distribution of gifts.

But Christmas planning was in progress weeks ago--as some have learned before this through the delivery of Christmas packages. A committee headed by Miss Roma Weaver saw to it that boxes were mailed in good time to all the service men and women from Calvary Baptist Church. It was quite a task but she had able assistants, and voluntary gifts from friends financed the purchases. If those who received them can find time to drop a line to Roma, she will be happy to know that her time was well spent. Another huge consignment of Christmas boxes--more than 150--went out from Hopewell through the work of the Fire Company Auxiliary, to show once again, even in a small way, that the link between home and these who are miles away remains as strong as ever.

REPORTS ON LEYTE LANDING

First-hand reports (as far as the censor will allow) have come through concerning the landings on Leyte in the Philippines. Robert "Bob" Hill, Pl/c, states that special permission was granted to write home and let the folks know about the activities. He says:

"It was the invasion of Leyte in the Central Philippines. The island itself is a round 100 miles long and 15 miles wide at its narrowest point--mostly mountainous country with very dense growth. From reports, the natives gave the boys a very hearty welcome, braving gunfire and coming down on the beaches to meet them. Yes, we were there bright and early on D-Day and put the boys ashore, saw a little excitement but that is all in the job. It makes a fellow sorta proud to know that he helped, even in a small way, to put General MacArthur and his boys back on soil that they had once fought for and lost and now they are going back this time to win. We're going to keep right on winning, too.... We weren't there when the two Navies put on the show because either our Skipper has a little birdie that tells him things or the Good Lord above was protecting our Skipper and us, for we gave up our 'seats' like gentlemen. Lucky for us, we did, I guess. We really have a swell Skipper and he looks out for his men. We sure are proud of him, too." (Bob added Christmas greetings "to all the folks and thanks to those who are underwriting the 'News.'")

Fred N. Macneil, SK l/c, who formerly was employed at H. A. Smith's and is now aboard a "baby carrier" in the Pacific, saw the Leyte action from a different angle. He has transmitted a mimeographed report, apparently prepared aboard ship, that tells just how it feels to be under attack. It states that those aboard his carrier, identified as the "Manila Bay," were called to General Quarters at 7 A.M. on Oct. 25th, and word passed that Jap battleships, cruisers and destroyers were attacking nearby. Soon word came that several of the battleships, etc. were separating from the main body and heading at full speed toward the force in which the "Manila Bay" was included. Since "baby carriers" are not designed for surface action, its planes, were its chief means of defense and most of the planes were armed for other purposes. The account continued:

"But our bomb-handling crews worked miracles in breaking out torpedoes and heavier bombs and loading the planes with a 'Sunday punch.' When the flights took off that turned the Japs away from us, their shells were already beginning to fall within our destroyer screen. It was truly just a matter of minutes until the 'Manila Bay' would have been under fire from their heavy guns.... At the beginning it was a defensive fight. We were fighting to save our ships and our skins. But after our pilots had dropped their torpedoes and bombs where they would do the most good and the Japs had turned from us, it became an attack.... When they turned, we turned.... We threw everything we had at them, from rockets to depth bombs.... What appeared at the outset of the morning to be a crushing defeat was turned into an utter rout of the main body of the Jap fleet. We're pretty proud of the 'baby' carriers... The air attack, of about 30 planes, that they threw at us in the evening was an anti-climax. The same pilots, many of whom had flown 8 or 9 hours of combat that day, went out and knocked them down so fast that no one got a chance to drop a bomb near our ships. All in all, as our Admiral said, it was a big day for the little fellows."

Macneil added in his letter that the "News" made him reminisce a bit and he welcomed the chance to read about his friends. He added that a "sailor always likes to hear about land," although in the past year he has probably not spent more than two to three months on land, and even that is an exaggeration as when tied up at a dock, our ship is still technically at sea." He added that "Actually then I have spent 15 days on the beach (salty talk.)"

"KEN" BURROUGHS ON MISSIONS

Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs, who is with a Bomb Squadron based in England, is now engaging in combat missions. The number to date and other details are lacking at present. However, "Ken" says he is kept busy most of the time, as when they are not out on definite assignments, they are out on practice missions. He is serving as a bombardier.

DR. SAMUEL MILLER RETURNS

Dr. Samuel Miller, of Pennington, who went overseas and served for months with a mobile hospital unit in North Africa and Italy, is back in the States. He is presently at Valley Forge Hospital, Pa. It is understood that he was returned because of a stomach condition attributed to dehydrated foods, along with overwork. While in North Africa, he had lived in tents as well as Arab huts. He was called upon to handle all types of cases, but some of his saddest cases involved children who had picked up live hand grenades and had their hands blown off, or had sustained other injuries.

SPONSORS

Friends of those in the Armed Forces are continuing to donate "what it takes" to publish the "Hopswell News." The recipients surely will want to know the names of those who have made this issue possible. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Gray (he formerly was in uniform himself); Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hausenbauer, Miss Allona Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. I. Clifford Higgins and Mrs. Dewey McLaughlin.

LOCKED IN THE SMOKE-HOUSE

"Butch," the former boxer who works in the butcher shop at the Skillman State Village, had several anxious moments just the other day when he found himself locked in the smoke-house there. "Butch" is a heavy-set man, and his home is up near Meshanic. At the Village, they raise a lot of hogs and that means a lot of bacon to be smoked. So "Butch" went out to the smoke-house on a recent windy day to start a fire in the small stove. While he was getting ready to kindle the blaze, the wind suddenly banged the door shut. It was black as a dungeon in the smoke-house and "Butch" groped around for the door. When he found it, he discovered to his consternation that the door would not unlatch from the inside. He tried to figure out what it would be best to do. Finally, he hit upon a plan. Starting from the far side of the smoke-house, he began to run and as he reached the door, hurled himself against it. It gave way and he went tumbling out--glad to see the light again but pretty well shaken up, too. Afterward, he said he was more than glad that he hadn't started the fire so that smoke was pouring out to add to his woes.

CLARENCE RUNYON ON HOME SOIL

A phone call from Florida brought the good news that M/Sgt. Clarence Runyon had arrived in Florida, after spending 33 months in Bushtown, Africa, with an AAF Base Unit. During that time, he had traveled widely, helping to move materiel to all points including Egypt, Arabia and India, but even in October, his letters gave no hint that he hoped to reach the States within a few weeks.

About Africa, Clarence says: "The people in the States are given the wrong impression of Africa and the majority of them consider it at its worst. I grant you that parts of Africa are as described in the books, but there are also some very nice places which should not be overlooked. I am in hopes that some day after the war my wife and I will be able to visit Durban, South Africa, for I know she would enjoy it very much. South Africa, in many respects, is just like the United States and the people try to copy our ways of living as much as they possibly can.

IRA BLACKWELL PASSES ON

Ira Blackwell, who will long be remembered as the energetic man who set the pace for Hopewell gardeners for years, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 3. He was taken ill the night before and died before many of his friends were aware that he was at Death's door. If he had lived another month, he would have been 82 years of age.

Every Spring, before others had begun to think much about gardening, Ira had his peas planted--and he always seemed to get his crop. And all Summer long, he gardened intensively in his small backyard plot--although taking care of a number of lawns and doing other work around the neighborhood. Even though he had his bean poles encrusted with snow, Ira believed in being ready to plant when a favorable day came. Some of those who gathered to pay final tribute to him observed that he had turned over the ground in his garden in anticipation of planting new crops in the Spring. But it was not so to be. Ira also will be remembered for the enjoyment he derived from playing the fiddle. He was self-taught, but he played jigs, reels and Southern airs with keen delight, and could dance a jig as well as some of those half his age.

FIGURE IT OUT

A new thermostat installed in the parsonage of Calvary Baptist Church was quite a problem at the outset recently. Clifford Higgins and the pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, checked it over and concluded that it was in "apple-pie" order. But when the regulator was pushed up the next morning, nothing happened. So Mr. Gray called his wife into service. He suggested that she move the regulator after he went to the cellar to observe what happened. When he called to her, she touched it and it worked! So up came Pastor Gray. He tried it and nothing happened! Downstairs again, Mrs. Gray trying it, and again it worked! That was really baffling. So they decided to reverse the tables, but Mrs. Gray was thinking it through as she went downstairs. At her call, her husband moved the regulator and now it was working for him, too. But when Mrs. Gray came upstairs, she asked--as only a wife who is ready to score a point can ask: "Do you realize that when you come up from the cellar, you turn the light switch on the stairway. Perhaps that has something to do with it." It only took a few seconds to reveal that Mrs. Gray had discovered the cause--turning off the light also turned off the power to the thermostat controls. So a change in wiring followed. The thermostat works beautifully, thank you.

SCHOOL OPERETTA

Pupils at the Hopewell Elementary School did a great piece of work when they presented "H.M.S. Pinafore," the Gilbert & Sullivan operetta. It took lots of preparation but the cast responded well to coaching by Mrs. Shirley Selby Boice and the singing was the best ever heard in the school. David Bellis was the Captain in command of the "Pinafore", the man surrounded by his cousins and his sisters and his aunts. Ronald Titus, togged out in all the gold braid of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and Hope Embley, as "Little Buttercup", and Bob Temple, as an able seaman, also had important parts. The sailor crew did a hornpipe, while between the acts a group of girls sang three Czechoslovakian folk songs.

GUNNING LUCK

There's good-luck and bad luck to be told about the gunning season. Rabbits have been both plentiful and scarce--just according to whether the gunner happened to see any--or get any. When one gunner told in Cox's Barber shop how "game is scarce some days but when you go over the same ground other days, you find it plentiful," Mr. Cox remarked: "That's just how it was 25 years ago!"

Among the lucky ones is Leon "Ducky" Drake, who was "up on the mountain" with Al Fitzpatrick. They saw two gray fox and "Ducky" stopped one of them. On the same day, Fitzpatrick bagged five of the six rabbits that hopped out ahead of him..... Marvin Conover, heading for town to buy a load of feed, took his gun along, and when he got back, with two stops enroute, he had two tons of feed and five rabbits...Delbert Conover, coming to town about 8 A. M., spied a possum and stopped in a hurry, hoping to get it but the possum vanished; however, Delbert still is hopeful.

The luck was otherwise for Tracy Hall, who had the misfortune to be in the line of fire when a young chap in their party banged away. More than 70 pellets of shot hit Tracy, chiefly around his hips and back and legs. The mishap occurred near Blawenburg. Tracy was taken to Princeton Hospital. According to reports, the boy involved said: "It's a good thing I didn't shoot when I first raised the gun as you were right in front of me." To that, Tracy is said to have replied; "Where do you think I was when you did shoot?" However, Tracy is now back to work, but he may never get over the fact that he was unable to go deer-hunting when the Penna. season opened.

Alvah Voorhees, Jr. was hit in the knee and ankle by shot that ricocheted from a stone after his father had fired at game. The injury didn't appear serious but after a lapse of about two weeks, it was found that a pellet of shot was pressing on a nerve, so he, too, required hospital treatment.

NEW SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Teachers in the Elementary School are looking forward to the arrival after the Christmas holidays of the new principal, Earl B. Whitcraft. He comes from the principalship of the Columbus (N.J.) School to succeed Charles Wilgus, who left quite unexpectedly to take a position at Scotch Plains. The Wilgus family remains in Hopewell, as the house they hoped to obtain has not become available.

The school faculty has been hard put to keep things going, as the situation was complicated by the resignation of Mrs. George Koeppl, who was teaching 7th grade. Mrs. Margaret Lawson was named as Acting Principal, but the two upper grades have had several substitutes, including Mrs. Harry Riley (who left because of earlier plans to go to Florida); Mrs. Claude Emmons, Mrs. Robert P. Miller, etc. However, a new 7th Grade teacher is due, also coming from the Columbus School where she served as an assistant principal under Mr. Whitcraft.

DANCING MISHAP

They say the floor was highly waxed for the Thanksgiving Day ^{dance} of the S.E.D.C. At any rate, a Phila. woman who attended, took a spill and broke a bone in her leg, just above the ankle.

PANCAKES AND SAUSAGE

The pancake-and-sausage supper arranged by the Men's Group of Calvary Baptist Church "for men only" proved to be quite an event. Perhaps the cooks did cause the church basement to be filled with smoke but the way the pancakes were done left no doubt about their success with the griddles and frying-pans. The butter--a scarce article these days--was a special treat and the buckwheat flour batter, as stirred up by Russell Riley, was a smooth article. Then Harry Seibert and Walter Everitt served 'em up nice and brown, while Dean Ashton handled the sausage. The waiters included Will Drake, Leon Drake and Lloyd Drake. The dishwashers would prefer to remain anonymous. Games followed and the evening was a big success. Will Drake remarked as he reached for another buckwheat cake, while eating with the cooks: "I believe this is the first time I ever attended a pancake-and-sausage supper." Someone at the table replied: "Well, it didn't take you very long to catch on!"

The group is meeting twice a month, with "Ducky" Drake heading it up. Shuffleboard is enjoying popularity, with two courts in use, thanks to the work done by Garrett Morrell, Walter Everitt and others who have seen to it that equipment is on hand.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

The David Bellis' family has moved from North Greenwood Ave. to West Broad St., occupying the Miller property where the Lutzos did reside...Llewellyn S. Farley, of Hart Ave., discharged from the Army after four years' service, was badly injured near Linvale when his car ran off the highway. Farley was jammed in the wreckage and sustained a skull fracture as well as fractures of both arms...Hilda Hoagland Tyson, who now lives in Plainfield, has a baby boy...On a recent day, the Red Cross workroom contained 45 aides who completed 1,925 dressings....Hopewell contributed \$1,820.75 in the National War Fund Drive....Samuel Little is quite pleased over the arrival of a grandchild named Samuel Robert Little, and born to the Clayton Littles.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

It looks as if the war has taken Sgt. John W. Dilts almost completely around the world. He is now in China with a Night Fighter Squadron, having shovled on from India. John will be recalled as having spent many months on an island in the Pacific, returning to spend a year in California before going out with his present outfit.

Frank Jones also is in China, and reports that the countryside reminds him of Hopewell during the harvest season, with shocks of grain about the same size as seen in this area, excepting that they are rice.

It's Pvt. Paul A. Ashton now, as he was called to active duty with the Army Air Force on Dec. 1, going to Fort Dix and from there to Keesler Field, Mississippi for basic training. Even after a couple of nights of all-night duty in a boiler room at Fort Dix, he reported that "everything is swell."

Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard is undergoing hospital treatment in California, it is learned. A leg injury, sustained while he was on a landing barge, is involved. While he was in Hopewell on furlough, he preferred to say nothing about it; but an operation is said to be required.

Pvt. John "Jack" F. VanLieu (Air Combat Cargo group) is permitted to reveal that he is located in Assam, which is northeastern India.

Captain John Ginter, an Army Air Force chaplain, has been transferred to Perrin Field, Texas, shifting from the air field connected with the Boeing plant at Seattle, Washington.

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell is right up there in France with the Ninth Army, and has received his Combat Infantry medal, which he prizes because "it means five more dollars a month." On Nov. 8th, he wrote that he had been in action but then was on a rest period, while on Nov. 21st, he wrote that "I know I haven't been over here very long but I feel like a 30-day furlough right now." It had "rained for a month," he added, but up to that time, he had not seen very much snow although it had turned pretty cold in his part of France.

John Garrett Conover, in Infantry training at Camp Croft, S. C., has qualified as a sharpshooter. He was 5th in his platoon of 247 men. On Thanksgiving Day, he was on "K.P." duty.

Pvt. Paul Stryker (Field Artillery) who was at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, has moved down to Camp Chaffee, Arkansas....Pvt. Harry C. McCandless (Field Artillery) is with a platoon at Camp Roberts, Calif., that won the drill championship there, thereby rating a special turkey dinner and two days' leave.

Writing from Holland, Pvt. Norman G. Hoggland (Field Artillery) comments that "Little idea did I ever have that I would be seeing all of these countries." He continued: "I like Holland the best of the three or four countries, counting England, France and Belgium. There is a certain quaintness about Holland's flat, well-tended fields and small, neat brick houses that is pleasing. The people are very friendly though we are not supposed to fraternize with them. They are a very industrious people...The Dutch children are very cute. They all have blonde hair, blue eyes and the pinkish cheeks. They wear a mixture of Western clothes and old Dutch clothes. They all wear gaily painted wooden shoes during the week but leather ones on Sunday...Orange is the official color of the Dutch 'underground', which is very well organized and you see nearly every person wearing some little bit of orange. Little girls wear large orange hair ribbons and the boys wear mufflers of orange...I wish I could tell you more about my actual position and about what we are doing, but that is out...We hope to parade right down the 'Untor der Lindon' before too awful long.

George "Ken" Hullfish, MM 3/0, writes from Pearl Harbor: "Things are going along just about the same out here. Sometimes we are a little busier than others. I see a lot of interesting things, that would make letter writing very easy if I could only tell about them. I have met quite a few fellows out here who I knew back home or at school and I expect to meet a few more as I am in a very good spot for such meetings. All I need to know is the name of the ship they are on and then it's very easy."

Sgt. Bruce H. Cray, who is in England and connected with a U.S. hospital, went to London recently on orders, driving in a Command car. He obtained a "G.I." bed at the Red Cross; went to Piccadilly Circus; had a goose dinner ("very good") and then went to a show. He took the "underground" railway back to the Red Cross and saw people sleeping at the stations. With their business in London completed, Bruce and his companion drove back to camp.

Pvt. William S. Conover, who now is at Camp Howze, Texas, has transferred from anti-aircraft to Infantry....Pvt. James H. Hall (Infantry) has just been at home on leave, due to the death of his grandmother. He came in from Fort McClellan, Alabama, and enjoyed talking to Mr. Cutter at the drugstore, as the latter was at Fort McClellan, during World War I. "Jim" looks fine. He agreed that Jersey looked great to him--in fact, he went to see the movie "Wilson" chiefly because it had scenes that were photographed in Princeton and Trenton. As for training, he feels that the more he gets, the better off he will be when the time comes to use his skill. And Alabama is all right, too, for it has trees, which he didn't see around Camp Stewart, Ga. He has learned that Pvt. Walter Broose is at Camp Sibert, Ala., about 28 miles away, and Jim hopes to get together with him.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Donald Selby has been promoted to a Captaincy, and is in India where he handles details in preparation for B-29 raids on Japanese industrial areas.

Sgt. Alan F. Hart has moved to another section of India, where the climate is better and more white people (mostly British) are located. He is now doing work on airplanes, it is understood. He has seen Calcutta, Bombay and New Delhi; as well as the interior of a hospital, as he was hit by the fever. As a souvenir collector, he also is doing all right and has sent home a varied assortment of articles.

Pfc. Paul Cutter, writing from "Somewhere in India" says he's always glad to get news from home, now that he is half-way around the world from the U.S.A. While he wouldn't want to live there, he says "it is a very interesting country." He adds that "It has taken the traveling that I have done since I left the States to make me realize what a good place Hopewell, or for that matter any place in the U.S., is."

Pfc. David Danberry, assigned to a hospital in England, says he likes being with a medical outfit, for whom he is a driver. He is kept busy, but says "the chow is better and plenty of it."

Cpl. Archibald R. Dey (Field Artillery) writes from "On the Front" that Ernie Blackwell deserves thanks for giving the Artillery a "pat on the back" in a recent letter. Yet he adds that "There is not a fellow in any artillery outfit that does not know that if it were not for the good old doughboy, we would never win any war." He adds "Keep up the good work, Em, that goes for all the other doughboys with you."

Herbert E. Wilson, S2/c (Rdm) is at Norfolk, Va., and has been in the Navy a little over six months. He hopes to "have a ship" soon but meanwhile is working in a carpenter shop and is kept plenty busy. Talking recently with a fellow who had come back from Pacific sea duty, Herb discovered that the chap knew Bill Gurka, from Hopewell, who is out there. Herb's brother, S/Sgt. Thomas I. Wilson, is in Europe with an infantry outfit.

Pvt. Bruce Vansant is at Fort Lewis, Wash., and doing office work connected with maintenance of heavy engineering equipment. He's had practical training of that sort since he entered the service. Located at the foot of Mt. Rainier, he says the mountain "can be seen on the few clear days in all its snow-covered splendor." His wife is living nearby in Tacoma, Wash.

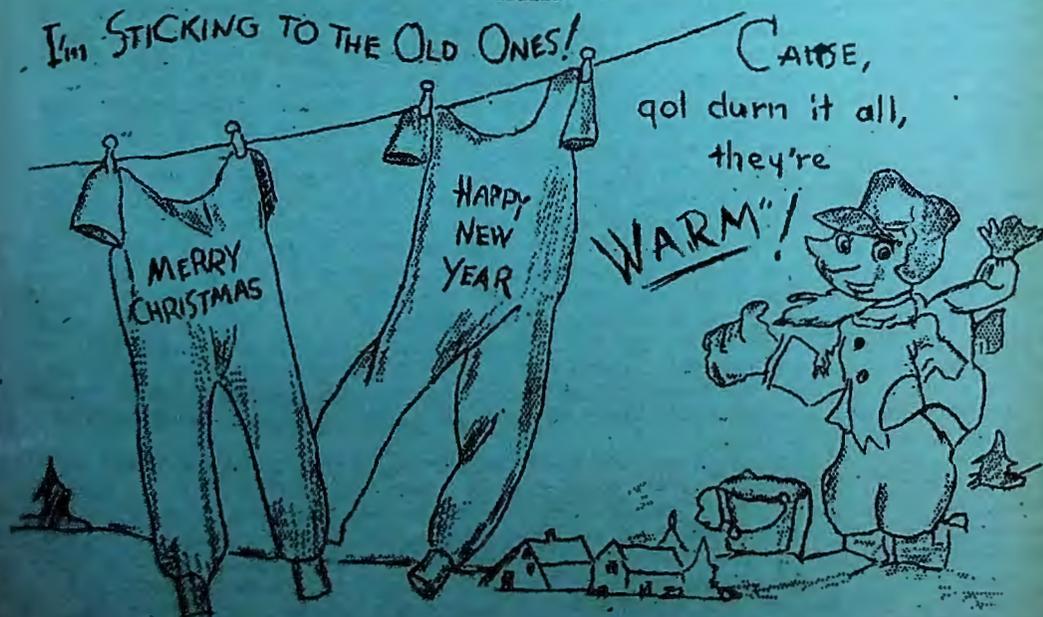
ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"How can I make anti-freeze?"

"Hide her woolen pajamas."

Sign in a meat market: "Ladies: Please don't bring your fat cans around on Saturday any more."

Poem: Jack had money, Jill had nil. Jill married Jack, so Jack had Jill.
Jill went to Reno; now she's back. Jack has nothing, but Jill has jack.



And so, to all, the very best of luck. Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 1

Hopewell, N.J., January 2, 1945

32nd Issue

THE EDITOR CHATS

Another calendar year is with us, and the "Hopewell News" begins Volume III. During 1944, seventeen issues were produced, indicating that the schedule of "every third week" was closely followed. Thanks to everyone who has helped the cause along --the fellows whose letters about their experiences and surroundings are read so eagerly; the friends who have contributed cash to cover the costs; those who have passed along a bit of news, changes of address or perhaps a joke; Walter Benson, for his reliable mimeograph which is giving fine service, and Mrs. Benson and the Comrades Class, of Calvary Baptist Church, who have made it possible for every Hopewell fellow to receive a copy. It's been a great experience for the Editor, who hasn't shown any serious signs of weakening as yet.

So, if it's all the same to everybody, we'll keep the "Hopewell News" going for a while longer. Hope you'll like it!

YEAR-END CHECKUP

A brand new map display captioned "Where They Serve" has been installed in the vestibule of Calvary Baptist Church. It follows the pattern of the map previously placed there, but new maps and re-arrangement of the individual pictures of those from the church who are in the Armed Forces, gives a better opportunity to indicate with pins and strings just where each fellow is located. Up-to-date addresses are provided and changed weekly, as they are obtained.

Checking it over, this was learned: 44 names on the Honor Roll, of whom four have received their honorable discharge; one wounded in action (Dennis VanLiew); present locations: 9 in Pacific area; five in France, two in England, one in Germany, one in India and one in China. That leaves 21 in the States, but five of that group have been out of the country, with four of them in the war zones.

BILL LOWE IS LIEUTENANT

Saluting Lieut. William Golden Lowe! Yes, Bill was commissioned on Dec. 30th at the Bombardier School, Midland (Texas) Army Air Field. Months back, when he began his studies at the Univ. of Vermont, Bill vowed that he'd make it or bust--and luckily nothing "busted." His expectations are that a furlough follows, so he can have an opportunity to spend a few days here at home.

"HOKEY" MISSING IN ACTION

Russell W. Holcombe, Jr., better known as "Hokey," is missing in action. Word to that effect came in a telegram delivered to his parents at 11 Lanning Avenue on Dec. 29th. It is understood that he had last been reported as being with an infantry outfit near the Swiss border in France. "Hokey" went overseas only a few weeks ago, having been home in October, after a long stay in Texas. His basic training had been interrupted because of illness that kept ^{him} in the hospital for quite a time. "Hokey" was one of those fellows who was taken into the service before he had completed his studies at Princeton High School. He had worked at Rorer's Hardware store during his off-hours, prior to going into the Army.

Since details are completely lacking, it is hoped that he is alive, even if it must be ~~word~~ that he is a prisoner of war. His Mother, who has been one of the faithful workers at the Red Cross room, has always said that she had the utmost confidence in his safe return. His Father is secretary of the Hopewell Building & Loan Association, and engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

GENEROUS GIVING

As Pastor Raymond A. Gray commented, "When people catch a vision of sacrificial giving, there is almost nothing beyond their reach." So it seemed when the gifts for the World Emergency Forward Fund were counted after the Sunday of Sacrifice, held on Dec. 3 in Calvary Baptist Church. For the total given for that fund is \$635. It is believed that the sum is the largest ever given on a single day in the history of the church. In fact, the goal set by the Committee in charge was \$400, but that was far exceeded. The money goes into a State and National fund to be used by the denomination for a variety of purposes--such as war relief needs, Christian ministry to men in service; overseas mission fields, church extension as well as post-war reconstruction and church advancement. When a church is ready to do so much for others, it demonstrates that it really has a broad outlook, striving for a better world.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES

Charles "Reg" Turley, who is out in the Mariana Islands in the Pacific, is now a Staff Sergeant. When he changed outfits in the Coast Artillery, he soon obtained his Sergeantcy, and now comes this further advance.

John "Jack" VanLieu, serving in India with a Combat Cargo group, is now a PFC. It's the second time he has been a Pfc., having given it up when he was moved from Salt Lake City, Utah, to Illinois College, at Jacksonville, Ill. in August, 1943, to take special engineering training, only to be shifted later out of the Air Corps and moved more recently to the Combat Cargo group.

For Thomas W. McCandless, the AAF has come through with a designation as a Corporal. He is at Abilene, Texas, at an AAF base....Clarence R. Habeeb, of the Navy, is now a Y 2/c, and continues on duty in Cleveland, Ohio.

Pvt. Harry E. McCandless moved recently from Camp Roberts, California, to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he is taking an advanced communications course--with 36 text books issued to him on one day! He says it's "just like a college."

Captain John H. Winant, son-in-law of Edward M. Haynes, is now in Hawaii. He was in the Palau Islands of the Pacific with an Infantry Service Company but has been given a new assignment. His mailing address refers to it as a "P.O.A.T.Q.M. Team." A nickel cigar (and they're a scarce item) to the first person who can tell what all those letters signify.

Theodore Wyckoff, who is a Lieut. (j.g.) in the Navy) who was at Miami, Florida, after studios at Princeton University, has gone to Fort Pierce, Florida, after a few days spent in Hopewell.

SON FOR CONOVERS

A baby boy has arrived for Pvt. and Mrs. John Garrett Conover--and the day of arrival was Christmas Day! The youngster has been named Garrett John, and most likely will be called "Garry"--although his older sister, Gail, is insisting that she prefers to know him as "Sam." The Mother is the former Ruth Gaskill. The baby weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz. The Father, when word reached him, was on out maneuvers, but by the following Sunday, had succeeded in getting things arranged so he could dash home for a glimpse of the baby, the trip being from Camp Croft, South Carolina.

TRAFFIC STALLED

The Reading "dinky" had things pretty much to itself on Friday, Dec. 22nd, when a freight-train mishap near South Langhorne, Pa. tied up all four tracks at a bridge over Neshaminy Creek for about eight hours; The derailment occurred about 5.30 A. M. and by 2 P.M. one track had been cleared so the streamlined Crusader could make its run from Phila. to N.Y. No one was injured, although 12 freight cars were derailed and rails and ties ripped up....Another night recently fire broke out in the switch control tower at West Trenton, but fortunately it was checked in the nick of time.

EIGHTH SON ENTERS SERVICE

Stanley Boalkowski, of Hart Avenue, entered the service on Dec. 25th. He is the eighth and last of the Boalkowski brothers to go into uniform. The others are widely scattered; Bill in India with the Air Corps as a propellor specialist; Frank in France with the Q.M. Corps; Alex, four years in the Army, with the Medical Corps in England; Edward, in the Merchant Marine for three years and a half, and recently back from overseas; Bruno, in the South Pacific assigned to gun fire control aboard ship in the Navy; Joe, taking Air Cadet training at Columbus, Miss., and Zigmund, who has been getting paratrooper training at Fort Benning, Georgia!

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES

While most Christmas activities are centered around the home, Hopewell marked the occasion in other ways as well. Carol singing was carried on chiefly by a group of 35 Grammar School boys and girls, piloted by Mrs. Shirley Solby Boice, who made the rounds during the early evening on Sat., Dec. 23rd. In the churches, special programs and the Christmas carols were sung....For Christmas dinner, some were lucky in having turkeys, but they were more than scarce. Shipments of Christmas trees also were far reduced, so most folks obtained theirs nearby....At Louie's Bakery, orders for cakes were piled high until the ice-cream counter had to cease business for a while on the Saturday before the holiday....At Spencer Moore's store, the demand for chickens was great, while the sale of oysters exceeded anything he had ever experienced, he reported....Herbert Rorer had floodlights that played on the front of his white house and it was a beauty spot, while in his store the rush for Christmas gifts, toys, etc. continued right up to the last minute....In Louie's bake-shop, a musical powder-box tinkled out soft music from time to time....Arlotte Lewis reported that she had seen it that a lump of sugar, an apple and some candy for Father Thompson's horse, "Blondie."

SNOW, ICE AND ACCIDENTS

Wintry weather has really had us in its grip, with the surface of Broad St. as smooth as glass, and sidewalks covered to make walking hazardous. The hard surface has made ideal sledding most everywhere. Ice skating also has come to the fore, but the nearest available spot seemed to be Weart's Pond. That's due, it is said, to the draining of the water from the pond near "H.A.'s" and also the Creamery pond on Model Avenue. Some of the boys had gone to the trouble of clearing out the weeds to have it in shape. Borough officials are getting blamed for draining the places, the story being that they acted because some boys tried to drown a dog in one of the ponds. As a result, there is no skating in town for anybody.

Likewise, the lack of a designated spot for sledding has caused quite a stir following serious injuries suffered by Albert Rathousky, of Hart Avenue. He, with other boys, was sledding on Broad Street, "hitching on" to cars, when in some manner he lost his grip on a rear bumper and went across the highway into the path of another car. Taken to the hospital, he was unconscious for some time but is now up and around his room. X-rays have been taken again to check up on his head injury, and what appeared to be a dangerous eye condition is clearing up.

Some day, perhaps, proper arrangements will be made so that the young people of the Borough can have their fun, and work off some of their excess energy, without being exposed to unnecessary dangers. If it isn't accomplished before, it would be something worthwhile for the returning servicemen to keep mind as a project they could work out for the younger generation.

OH, FUDGE!

Being holiday time, Wilma Carkhuff, 16, decided to make a pan of fudge on Christmas Day. It was chocolate-flavored and made mouths water, but Wilma has had to put it down cellar to cool off. A short time later, she went down to get it. To her dismay, she discovered that their dog, "Trap," was standing with one paw in the fudge, and licking up the chocolate fudge as fast as his tongue would work. Result: no fudge for anyone--except "Trap."

YOUNGSTERS "ADOPTED"

Two Hopewell fellows have "adopted" youngsters they encountered among the natives on islands in the Pacific, it is learned. Recently, S/Sgt. Charles "Reg" Hurley wrote home asking for shoes to fit a boy, as well as clothing, stating that this youngster that he was befriending out in the Mariana Islands had almost nothing to wear. Similar word came from Robert Burd, who is with a Signal Construction group in the Philippines. Bob writes: "The native people have gone through such severe conditions that it is really surprising there are any alive at all. They are really glad to see our boys....I have a boy--that is, he says he is my boy. I have named him Tony. He, like all the other children, is really wanting to get back to school, unlike myself when I was a kid." (Reporting on weather conditions, Ray said that they had 23 inches of rain during November).

"Reg" Hurley also wrote that "There has been a great change in the weather. It is the dry season now and we have very little rain. The sun is hot but a nice breeze blows and it is not so bad. The moon now is almost full and the night is almost the same as day. Do not have any trouble sleeping when I do get to bed as the nights are so short and we get up before 5 A.M....I had a great experience a few days ago when I felt the first earthquake in my life. Gosh, it seemed so funny to be standing on solid ground and to have it shake like jelly under you. That is only one of the minor things though that I shall remember from my prolonged stay in the Army....I miss you all back there and long to be with you once again. I have seen enough of the world. When I do get home, I'll be satisfied to stay at home with my dog, a good book and my slippers. Sounds as though I'm getting old, doesn't it, but I sure miss my good old home life."

DEER HUNTING

Several deer were shot in the vicinity of Hopewell during the four-day season Dec. 18-21. Tracy Hall, who had been wounded by buckshot during the rabbit season, was right out there searching for deer, going with Joe Baldwin when the latter got a 220-pounder that had a 10prong "rack." And the next day, Tracy was after them again, and this time, George Vandoren, a companion, had the luck.

But when it comes to gunning, they'll have to go some to beat the record made by the late Howard Stout and Lavy Horn, and Elmer Pittman. Pittman is the only one of that trio now living. But they really made a name for themselves as fox-hunters. After the rabbits were done, Stout, Horn and Pittman wouldn't let many good gunning days go by without being afield. Then at night they'd be around the Cox & Cray barber-shop, where they'd tell of their day's adventures. The recital--especially the three versions of it--was rare and might last an hour or more; but it was good listening. And if they happened to go back over a little recent fox-hunting history--well, according to one who used to listen--"they'd have foxes piled so high that you could hardly get out of the barber-shop!"

HOME AGAIN

William H. Wyckoff, SM 3/c, has been enjoying a visit back home, after being in the Mediterranean area for many months. He looks great; found it swell to say hello to old friends and to attend the Baptist Church again. He's an "old hand," you know, first serving aboard a sub-chaser nearer home, then going to a larger ship and crossing the Atlantic with a convoy that reached Sicily at invasion time. Since then---but that's where the censor steps in.

Another who was heartily glad to see Hopewell again is M/Sgt. Clarence A. Runyon, home from "Bushtown," Africa, where he had been for the past 26 months. In all, he has spent 53 months in the Army. He came home by plane, the trip taking 31 hours to Florida. He is to receive medical care, having an ear infection that needs attention. Clarence says his visit to Durban, South Africa, was probably his most interesting experience although he's traveled far with the AAF getting supplies thru. He says: "At first I thought we had gotten off our course for the city appeared very similar to any American city with as many white people around as at home. There were automobiles, modern movies, restaurants and just about everything else that I didn't expect to find. Our first thought was food." So they ate steak and onions, fried potatoes, vegetables, pie and cream and it cost each of them just 60 cents! They rode the trains and buses without charge--free to Allied troops. He found the people very hospitable--"they just couldn't seem to do enough for us. We couldn't walk down the street without someone stopping us and wanting us to come to their home for dinner. We learned later that the people had never seen Yanks in uniform and we were more or less the center of attraction wherever we went."

Clarence also told of how they created a fad in Durban for iced coffee. They asked for it at a large hotel and it took some time to convince the waitress that they were not kidding. Finally, she agreed to bring the coffee, cream, ice and sugar to the table so they could make their own, since she had never heard tell of such a thing. By that time, everyone in the dining room was watching. So they made their iced coffee and enjoyed it. Others began to call for it, so the waitress asked the fellows to help make it. They thought it was fun and everyone remarked how good it was. A few days later, they revisited the hotel for dinner and the waitress said that since that time, practically everyone had been ordering iced coffee. But after a few weeks, a new assignment came through and Durban was left behind, but Clarence still has a keen memory of the farewell, with the crowds cheering them on their way, flags waving from every window--"A very impressive sight and something that I shall never forget."

SPONSORS

Time and again, letters from those in the Armed Forces request the Editor to thank the sponsors for their part in underwriting the cost of the "Hopewell News." Space does not permit printing those requests. The sponsors are asked to accept this assurance that their help is appreciated all along the line.

The cost of this issue has been covered by the following: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Allen, Mrs. J.C. Vandoren, Mrs. Florence Bollis, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burton and Bob Rockwell (from England).

CHURCH EVENTS

More than 20 young people of Calvary Baptist Church made a pre-Christmas visit to the Princeton University Chapel to see the handsome stained-glass windows....The Christmas bazaar of the Missionary Society netted a nice profit....The choir royally entertained recently by Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Hurley, with a 20-lb. turkey and all the trimmings served up. What a cook! Through it all, the Gray's baby, Mary Elizabeth, slept right along.....Mary Elizabeth made it a happy Christmas for the Grays, even though they were storm-stayed while visiting friends up in Ridgewood, N.J. The icy highways prevented Mr. Gray from driving back, so he came by train and returned later to bring the family.....The church presented a nice sum of money to the Grays as a Christmas gift.....Sadie Dansberry, choir director, was honored similarly for the service she has rendered. Incidentally, she sang "O Holy Night" for the candle-light vesper service on Dec. 24th at which Mr. Gray read a condensation of VanDyke's "The Story of the Other Wise Men."In the Bible School, gifts were brought to be taken to the Children's Home Society in Trenton....The Bible School pupils gave a special program on Dec. 22nd, with recitations and a pageant called "What the Stars Saw," depicting the night of Christ's birth. Some fine costuming added to the effectiveness of the presentation. Then the audience went downstairs to sing "Jingle Bells" and greet Santa Claus, who had a voice that sounded a little like Scott Dansberry's. Santa distributed gifts, of course.....Donald Allen has had several articles accepted by the Baptist publication society for its periodicals, and Pat Laird also wrote an article that has been given the C.E.....Mr. and Mrs. John S. VanDyke recently observed their 69th wedding anniversary--quite a record. Mrs. VanDyke was the first organist of Calvary Baptist Church and is the only living charter member....Mr. and Mrs. Walter Housel recently marked their 48th wedding anniversary.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland reveals that he is in Germany, after moving across Belgium and Holland. Writing on German paper that he found nearby, Forman reports: "We are living in the basement of a house and considering everything, we are pretty comfortable. We have a stove set up in which we are burning good old German coal. The former owners left us a pretty good supply conveniently stored in one corner of the basement. We have electric lights which are powered from a portable generator. We have tables and chairs and though we sleep on the floor, are pretty well off. It sure is a sight better than living in a pup tent or a fox-hole....We have been having some fairly nice weather but now the rain has started again, the wind is blowing very hard and cold and it is most darn miserable. But last night was as pretty a night as I've ever saw. Along with the bright moonlight, the searchlights and the occasional anti-aircraft fire illumined things very distinctly. Aside from the sinister aspect of the anti-aircraft fire, the sight of strings of tracer bullets travelling up into the sky is really pretty. They remind me of strings of Christmas tree lights....We are giving them plenty of trouble but there is still plenty of fight in these 'Krauts'. My guess is that the end will come in the Spring of '45 but as I say it is only a guess. I think the militaristic Germans are getting a bellyful of war."

Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard, of the Marines, is making progress at the U.S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, Calif. (Bldg. 136 South). He says that "I still don't know just what I am going to do, but they are trying to put me back in good condition, I suppose, so I can go out and play with the Japs again." He said that San Diego weather was excellent, although it didn't seem as if it could be near Christmas. At the hospital, they had been enjoying stage shows, with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby and others featured. He added: "It's going to be something to have to go back to work again."

Lt. Harold Temple, who may be in New Guinea but travelling various directions with a Troop Carrier group of the AAF, writes that "The other day I had the good fortune to meet a fellow I went to High School with, Morgan VanHise, from Washington's Crossing. We also went through quite a lot of our Army training together. He also is flying transports or "flying box-cars." ...The weather the last couple of weeks has been swell here, hardly any rain. There for a while we were living like ducks. We are planning on going swimming after lunch. The breakers at the beach aren't as large as on the Jersey coast but we take a rubber raft along and have a big old time....It doesn't seem here as if it will be Christmas within a few days. Here in the tropics things are growing up twice as fast as any woods do back home."

George O. Phillips, SPl/c, has obtained a long-sought transfer and is now assigned to a ship at Newport, R. I. The detail is just forming and there will be a lot of work getting things rounded out to assure that team-work that has made the Navy famous. George adds: "But we can thank God that our American youth has been taught team work up through the years, because that has been a great asset in our program of training."

Robert I. Hill, Fl/c, writes briefly that "Everything is about the same with us and on the move most of the time. This past week, though, we were near a friendly island--rather I should say a recaptured one and it is fairly safe--so we've been having some recreation parties ashore. Been seeing a few WACS and Army Nurses, and of course, some natives."

Pvt. Paul A. Ashton has passed the first hurdle in his AAF training at Keesler Field, Mississippi. In classification tests, he made the grade for Aviation Cadet training, which will follow his "basic." He will not know what phase of training he will receive until he reaches pre-flight school. In his barracks, only seven out of 60 qualified as Air Cadets. He added that "some of the fellows are feeling pretty low but you can't hardly blame them. A couple missed just because they couldn't cross their eyes. Oh, my!"

Pfc. Joe Muredda is with the Infantry and in Germany. He said he was glad to receive the "Hopewell News" especially when you are "somewhere where news from home is really appreciated....It's but a few days till Christmas. The boys and myself will make the best of it here...."

Dewey A. McLaughlin, Sl/c, writes with a San Francisco APO number, that "I'm sorry I can't tell you where I am, but it is very good hunting out here, and I don't mean for rabbits....As soon as I got the "Hopewell News," the boys keep asking me who has it next when I'm through with it. It gets passed on to someone else and keeps going until it is so worn that it can't be read."

Pvt. Arthur Yard has been at Amarillo, Texas, for about six weeks and is taking a 76-day course on airplane mechanics. He had basic Army Air Corps training at Sheppard Field, Texas...I have met Clifford Lomig here and we have seen a couple of shows together and talked over old times in Hopewell."

Captain John Ginter, Air Corps chaplain, is home on furlough from Porrin Field, Texas, and the Presbyterian congregation is planning a covered-dish supper in his honor....Orville Wyckoff has been home, and goes back to Fort Meade, Md....Pvt. Verdia Hoagland has received a medical discharge and returned from Wyoming, his trouble involving his back.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

For bravery displayed despite enemy shell-fire and snipers, Sgt. Stephen G. Myers has been awarded a Bronze Star Medal and been cited for meritorious achievement. He is in France or Germany, serving with an armored Field Artillery battalion. Myers works with a wire section that maintained communications in the advance from Normandy to northern France. He has been in the Army almost two years now, and recently met Thomas Faherty while both were attending church in France.

Andrew Monteleone, serving on a PT boat off Leyte, recently figured in a special broadcast in which it was revealed how they, with other small craft, attacked a Jap destroyer aiding in running fresh troops and supplies to that island in the Philippines. Their torpedoes sank the Jap destroyer but the PT boats had nearly 20 minutes of hard-going before they escaped behind a smoke screen.

Adm J. Ziglenoski recently was inducted, going into the Navy....Pvt. William R. Bodine, taking ASTRP work at the Univ. of Buffalo, was home over the holidays....

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Orville Carkhuff, Jr. has been accepted for military service and expects to be called during the latter part of January.....In the Elementary School, it's like starting a new school year for upper-grade pupils, with the arrival of the new principal, Earl B. Whitcraft, of Columbus, and a new seventh grade teacher, Mrs. Florence A. Hopkins, who comes from the same school system. Mr. Whitcraft was in town on the day after Christmas, to acquaint himself with some of the details....Friends were congratulating Joseph B. Hill (coal and lumber business) recently on his 83rd birthday....At Weart's bowling alleys, automatic pin-setters have been installed, while some of the old pins have been discarded and used as firewood to warm ice skaters...

Robert Copner was around on crutches, then a cane, after spraining his ankle while deer hunting.....The S.E.D.C. held a New Year's Dance on Dec. 30th. No broken legs this time, but some participants could hardly get homo--slippery streets and pavements, of course.....Since the arrival of Mr. Fuss (pronounced to rhyme with loose), it develops that the correct way to pronounce the name of the Methodist pastor (who is generally called Fuss to rhyme with Russ) is "Fooso" (to rhyme with loose).

Vernon Temple's bride, Mrs. Wilma E. Grube Temple, was honored at a variety shower recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Temple. Vernon, MEM/O in the Navy, is serving on a ship in the Pacific, but the wedding took place in San Francisco in Oct.....An American Legion Auxiliary has been formed with Mrs. Walter Peterson as president.....In the smudge on windows at the railroad station, someone has written "Beverly Ann, Zion, N.J.".....Mrs. Garrett Morroll was badly bruised after a fall downstairs at her home but is improving...

Earl Wert was in Chicago recently attending the National 4-H Club Congress, the trip being an award that he and George Titus, Jr. won as the winning demonstration team in New Jersey competition. They demonstrated efficient feeding of cattle with wartime rations. Incidentally, Earl has had quite some success in raising bronze turkeys.

THANKS ALL AROUND

Nearly every letter written by fellows in the service requests that their appreciation for Christmas gifts, letters and cards be conveyed. Many have explained that they lack time to write personally to all who were so thoughtful of them. So, here's conveying that word of thanks and hoping that it will be viewed as covering every thoughtful act.....Likewise, the folks back home are proud of the greetings they received. Some of the special designs on V-mail were clever works of art.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"What did the little rabbit say as he ran out of the burning forest?"

"I don't know--what did he say?"

"I've been deferred!"

A church deacon took his wife to the races, much against her better judgment. As the horses were lining up at the barrier, she seized the deacon's arm and asked him for a safety pin, at the same time grabbing frantically for something that seemed to be slipping at the knees. Just then someone nearby shouted "They're off!" She fainted.

Shocked Old Lady: "--And on the way up here we passed twenty-five people in parked cars!"

Young Hostess: "Oh, I'm sure you're mistaken. It must have been an even number."

IN CLOSING

With manyon the move and conditions changing, it would be a treat to know the circumstances under which this issue is being read. Hope many of those in the service will feel inclined to send some word along. Best of luck to you.

(Next issue--January 23rd)
97 W. Broad St., Hoggswell, N.C.

Sincerely,
DEAN H. ASPTON

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 2

Hopewell, N.J., January 23, 1945

33rd Issue

NEW PRINCIPAL HAS IDEAS

Only three weeks have passed since the Elementary School's new principal came on the job but he has really "gone to town." He is Earl B. Whitcraft, a former teacher in the Palmyra (N.J.) High School, and principal of the Columbus School prior to accepting his present position in Hopewell.

Mr. Whitcraft works well with the teaching staff, is liked by the student body and has already demonstrated that he has a lot of ideas. Notable changes already are in effect. Incidentally, a reception in his honor was held last night, sponsored by the Parent-Teacher Association to give folks a chance to get acquainted with Mr. Whitcraft.

Instead of taking charge of the Eighth Grade, which Mr. Charles Wilgus, former principal, supervised, Mr. Whitcraft took over the Sixth Grade. Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice was moved up to the Seventh Grade (Mrs. George Koepfel having resigned) and a new teacher, Mrs. Florence Hopkins, taking the Eighth Grade. Pupils shifted classrooms in adjusting to the changes. School starts ten minutes earlier every day, 8:50. The lunchroom is to be brightened up with fresh paint, tables and benches re-arranged while cafeteria style of service has been installed (one week after Mr. Whitcraft arrived!) Menus with greater variety are being offered. About \$400 worth of new equipment, such as trays, new plates, stainless steel knives, forks and spoons, etc. has been ordered by the P.T.A. To pay the bills, the said P.T.A. is going to break out in a rash of bake-sales, card party, St. Patrick's Day dance, etc. In the School library, \$50 worth of new books will be placed.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitcraft and two children plan to move to a home on Shaftsbury Avenue about February 1. The youngsters, Gary and Pamela, are 3½ years and 10 months old respectively.

NARROW ESCAPE

Lieut. Fred Boice, husband of Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice, recently had a close call. He is engaged in Army photography work out in the Pacific. With a companion, he recently came across the bodies of two Japanese officers, their swords still at their sides. These swords are a highly-prized souvenir. Lieut. Boice reached down and removed one. His companion had gone about 25 feet away to do likewise. When he attempted to take the sword, his action set off a beebie trap and he was blown to bits.

RARE CENSUS

There's been many a census taken, but here's one that beats them all. By actual count, it recently was determined that Hopewell has 121 widows and old-maids! For a town of about 1,600 people, that's quite a heavy percentage. The count, incidentally, is quite reliable, having been made by an old residenter with an idle evening on his hands. So, street by street, up one side and down the other, he went--mentally--and the total was 121.

JACK VAN LIEU IN CHINA

Pfc. John "Jack" F. Van Lieu, last reported as being in Assam, northeastern India, with a Combat Cargo Group, writes from China! And after seeing India, he says that "the country and people here are a pleasant contrast." In fact, he almost enthuses about it. He writes: "The food is wonderful and the barracks are wonderful. It seems like paradise." Incidentally, Jack thinks he may be near Sgt. John W. Dilts and is sure he has been where John was stationed. He also reports that he was very close to Sgt. Alan F. Hart at one time. (Note that Jack is a Pfc. again.)

Jack went on to tell an impressive story. After referring to Calvary Baptist Church and saying that "The church certainly has a fine record in backing the war effort and it makes one proud to belong to a church like that," Jack wrote: "I had a pretty good Christmas considering the circumstances. We had a good dinner and nice church services. A collection was taken in the chapel and the original suggestion was that the China Relief should be the recipient. Then it was pointed out that a missionary was close by and mission funds were small in times such as these. It was voted, unanimously, regardless of the denomination, to give the mission our offering." Jack also told how on Christmas morning the Chinese of the province presented two steer and baskets of oranges to his outfit as a tribute to those who had left their homes so far away to help the people of China.

SILVER PLAQUE FOR ROCKWELL

Employees of the H. A. Smith Machine Company decided that something should be done to mark the occasion when Herbert S. Rockwell completed 15 years in charge of the business. So he was presented a silver plaque bearing a tribute to his cooperative attitude and consideration for others. The wording was reproduced on a large card and Mr. Rockwell had employees in all the departments sign their names.

"KEN" BURROUGHS RECEIVES AIR MEDAL

It has been learned that Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs, a bombardier, has been awarded the Air Medal, given for completing six missions. He received it in November and since that time has added a number of flights to his record. As he expresses it, he is "gradually writing off my combat missions" but stated that he could not reveal exactly how many he had to his credit. He described the situation this way: "I can say that a number of missions are behind me. I believe that we are having a much easier job than those preceding us. The missions aren't too bad any more....Living conditions are fairly good, certainly no comparison to a foxhole. The food could be better but that, too, is fair. Ever hear of an Army man who didn't kick about his food? We can go into town at night and about every three weeks we have the opportunity to go to London for two days. I have been there three times....Many of the 'sights' of England have been under my scrutiny at one time or another for we fly all over this country."

DELAYED CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES

Unusual circumstances postponed Christmas observances for a couple of families in Hopewell and nearby. Albert Rathousky's serious sledding accident and the stay in the hospital that followed prompted his parents to drop all holiday plans. However, Albert returned home on Jan. 3rd, well on the road to recovery, so the Christmas tree was put up and the distribution of gifts took place. Albert's back in school now.

At the Marvin Conovers, Christmas also was delayed but when the Christmas dinner was served on Jan. 4th, there sat Pvt. John Garrett Conover at the table, the new baby, "Garry," nearby, and a roast goose on a platter ready to be served up. In that case, the delay was due to the arrival of the baby on Christmas Day, as well as complications resulting when Mrs. Marvin Conover's blood-pressure gave trouble. However, young Garrett's wife, Ruth, was back from the hospital by the 4th and her husband's furlough was well-timed. However, he did not return to Camp Croft, S. C. but went to Maryland and it appears likely that he has moved overseas.

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Let's take a look at the way some of the Hopewell fellows, scattered around the world, marked Christmas. Robert I. Hill, Fl/c, received a red-and-white striped necktie for Christmas! Wouldn't that look good with a Navy-blue uniform! His wife, Ina Conover Hill, sent it to him--for a reason. Last year, he reported that it hadn't seemed like Christmas--no neckties. So she decided he would get one this time, and a blazing color at that. So what did he do with it? Well, some of his chums dared him to dress up in it for "muster." Bob did! He said it went over big.

Cpl. Graham L. Benson, of the Marines, who recently moved far out in the Pacific, declared it was "about the hottest Christmas I ever had." He added: "Instead of wearing snow-suits, we were wearing shorts. There was the same spirit, however. Believe it or not, they got a Christmas tree from somewhere and put it up outside the mess hall. It looks like a cypress tree. They must have found it out in the jungle somewhere."

Lieut. Harold Pample, serving with an Air Squadron that moves troops, and possibly based in New Guinea, wrote: "It is quite warm with jungles all around, so the Christmas atmosphere is missing, but we think about the past ones and the future ones and the meaning of Christmas. Hope to be home by next Christmas or soon after if everything goes O.K." Harold recently saw to it that some friends in a hospital near his base had a special treat. He was down to Australia on leave and obtained two chickens and three watermelons to take back with him. You can imagine how they were welcomed.

ON THE MOVE

Pvt. William S. Conover, who is really an Army "old-timer" with service in Panama that began before the outbreak of World War II, may be on his way overseas. He is now in the Infantry and recently moved from Georgia to Maryland, with indications that foreign service was next in order.

CORRECTION

In a previous issue, it was stated that Stanley Boalkowski, of Hart Avenue, had entered the service. He has seven older brothers who are serving. However, the report was inaccurate as Stanley has just reached 18 and registered with Selective Service.

CHURCH ELECTS HILL

Out came the covered dishes again and Calvary Baptist Church held another of its quarterly covered dish supper-business meetings early in January. Tables were well filled. The resignation of George McCandless as Trustee was accepted and Leon Hill named to fill the vacancy. Last Spring, after serving 18 years, Leon decided that he should step aside. Despite urgings, Leon wasn't at all sure that he should start a new term, remarking that somebody might get a notion that he thought he was "indispensable." Actually, the trustees felt that he had a lot of experience and background that the church could use to good advantage.... At the same meeting, copies of the "Torch," the church paper, were distributed. It included financial reports, showing a gratifying state of affairs.... A playlet, "Christmas Around the World," was given by Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Jr. and several girls.... Plans were made looking forward to Easter, which comes on the first day of April this year.

WILL ASHTON PASSES ON

Many a person who turned to Will Ashton when they wanted to locate antique furniture, have furniture repaired or a chair seat caned or "rushed," will be missing him in the days to come. For he passed away on January 8th. He had been bed-fast for two years and seven months following a stroke in June, 1942. Although his left arm and leg were paralyzed, he caused his host of visitors to marvel at his keen memory as he reminisced about bygone days in Hopewell and vicinity. He formerly owned and farmed the property where the Punnington Trap Rock quarry is now located, that development starting following his sale. He moved to Hopewell in 1911 and was a charter member of the Fire Department. He was 78 years old. It was the second death in the West End neighborhood involving a long-time resident, Ira Blackwell having died on Dec. 3, while only a year ago Will Hixson, another neighbor, passed on.

MISS IDA SCHANCK DIES

Living alone, Miss Ida Schanck, of Columbia Avenue, laid for hours on her kitchen floor after a fall on Jan. 12, but despite hospital care following her discovery, death ensued. She was 85 years of age and had preferred to go it alone since a sister died several years ago. It is not known how long Miss Schanck remained helpless on the floor before being found, but the fire in the stove had gone out and she was unable to speak. She died three days later.

RUNAWAYS

Two boys ran away from St. Michael's Orphanage on Jan. 3rd and in their eagerness to get out of town, stole a bicycle belonging to Clyde Ashton. The disappearance of the bike created a mystery for a couple of days. When it was learned that two boys had run away and one had been re-captured in Trenton, the search for the bicycle--which had a bad tire--led in that direction. By good luck, the bike was found in a ditch below Weart's Corner. The second boy, whose home was in New Brunswick, remained at liberty.

EDGAR VAN ZANDT IS 90

You'd never know it, but Edgar L. Van Zandt, formerly of Hopewell, was 90 years old the other day. He now lives at Blawenburg with his son, Albert. When it comes to age, they say that "A man is only as old as he feels, while a woman is only as old as she feels--like admitting." The first-half of that is true with Mr. Van-Zandt, who is an early-riser, active around his son's place and a frequent visitor in town.

MIXUP IN CATS

One rarely knows what takes place in the life of a cat--although somebody must have decided years ago that they were entitled to nine lives. At any rate, all the cats in town are moowing about the fact that "Nobody's safe these days."

It seems that Mrs. John Burd was concerned about the disappearance of her cat. She mentioned it to her aunt, Mrs. George V. Van Neste. The latter, going out of the house later, saw a cat nearby. "There's her cat!" she exclaimed, and obtained a basket, putting the cat in it. She took it to Mrs. Burd, who at first glance saw that it wasn't her cat! So Mrs. Van Neste took it back and released it. Weeks went by and Mrs. Van Neste often wondered whose cat that might have been. Then one day she was visiting a neighbor when another neighbor arrived, trailed by her cat. Seeing the cat, Mrs. Van Neste said "I do believe that's the same cat."

The cats around town have resolved to be more wary about folks who want to put them in baskets.

SPONSORS OF THIS ISSUE

It's always a pleasure to report the names of those who have helped meet the cost of an issue of the "Hopewell News." This issue was paid for by Mrs. Walter Sinclair, G. Newell Holcombe, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Copner, Mrs. Gertrude Danberry, Joseph G. Drake, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Everitt and Mr. and Mrs. George M. Savidge.

Son: "Mom, how do you get the cubic contents of a barrel?"

Mother: "I don't know--ask your Father."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Paul C. Stryker, who was in California and more recently took Field Artillery training in Missouri and Arkansas, believes the Army has finally found a place to use a school teacher. He has been at Lexington, Va. attending Washington & Lee University, getting a month's course in Information and Education. He anticipated returning to Camp Chaffee, Ark. with an opportunity to put his special studies to good use, as he liked the work a lot.

S/Sgt. C. "Reg" Hurley writes jubilantly--probably from the Mariana Islands, that he feels quite sure that he will get a furlough and be home by July, and possibly sooner. With about three years of service out there, it does seem overdue.

Cpl. Colin A. McBurney, advanced from PFC, finished up his training at Harvard, Nebraska, was back in Hopewell over the Christmas holidays and now is located at Pyote, Texas. He is assigned to a combat crew and with his Bomb Squadron training, anticipates a move to the action zone. He also has been located in New Mexico and at Lincoln, Nebraska.

Vernon I. Temple, M.M.3/c, is getting to know the Pacific almost as well as the "H.A." pond. In a letter headed "In Port, Christmas night," Vernon told some of the details about his recent marriage. An elderly couple that he and his intended wife, Wilma, met while hurrying about making wedding preparations volunteered to assist. These friends arranged about the chapel, music, soloist and even about the wedding cake--and confetti...Vernon also expressed deep gratitude to those who had helped make the "Hopewell News" available.

Lieut. William Lowe was in Hopewell for a number of days, after receiving his commission at Midland, Texas. He took bombardier training. His visit at home was the first since he went into the Army 16 months ago, as he had no "stop-over" when he moved from the Univ. of Vermont to Texas a while back. Bill looks great in his officer's uniform with that gold bar on his shoulders. He attended the church covered-dish supper as a guest of the Walter Housels and that gave him a chance to see quite a few friends. He reported back to Midland, Texas, for further orders.

Pvt. Leonard W. Vandewater was at home for a week's furlough, coming from Camp Croft, South Carolina.....Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, Paratrooper, who is at Camp MacKall, North Carolina, had leave over New Year's and went down to Fort Jackson, S. Carolina, to see his old outfit, now known as the 240th A.G.F. Band, in which Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew plays the clarinet. Fred, incidentally, spent Christmas in Atlanta, Georgia, so he could be with his brother, Dennis, who is in the Lawson General Hospital there. Dennis' wife, Elsie Hill VanLiew, has just returned from Atlanta, being there for about a month. Because of a skin infection, Denny was held in the hospital some of the time, but improving, he was able to go about with his wife later. He expected an operation as a preliminary to obtaining a new arm.

Writing from Germany under date of Dec. 10, Pvt. Norman G. Hoagland said: "Winter has set in with our first snowfall yesterday. It soon turned to rain but it is pretty chilly and the mud is deep. Hope it freezes solid soon so the traveling will be easier." Mentioning a boil that had troubled him, he added "We get the very best of medical care and the battlefield medics deserve the highest esteem in the world."

Pvt. Paul A. Ashton has been on bivouac and also getting rifle range practice at Kessler Field, Mississippi. He spent New Year's Eve on "K.P.", being assigned to the Rifle Range mess hall about 12 miles out. They worked until about 11.30 and then cooked up steak (tender) and french-fried potatoes about midnight. His first Army pay-day was quite an event, the fellows being called out at 12.40 A. M. to be paid, after which they stood in line until 3.10 A. M. but "the ghost walked" and that was what counted.

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell wrote on Dec. 29th that "There isn't much I can say about my actions right now but my next letter should be an interesting one. So far, we have been getting our mail whenever it gets here, even on the front lines."

Pvt. Harry E. McCandless, who is taking a Radio Mechanics course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, has 48 hours of class each week. After 12 weeks, he will have five weeks of assembly line work on radio sets. His studies have included map and photograph reading, code and ciphers and message handling. In one letter, he told how "We loaded into trucks and went quite a way from camp. When we stopped the lieutenant gave each an aerial photograph and four sheets of questions about ranges, points to locate, elevation, etc...This morning we went to another place where we were given another photograph with certain points marked on it which we were to find and upon arriving there, sign a roster. The points were about two miles apart. We were assigned four of them and had to be back where we started by 11.30. It wasn't as hard as it sounds." Describing Christmas, Harry said: "I was as happy as a little boy on Christmas when I got so many nice packages. You should have seen the table in the hut--piles and piles of cookies, chocolates, hard candy, nuts, dates and more than I can recall."

Cpl. Graham L. Benson, with the Marines somewhere in the Pacific, wrote on Dec. 21 that he had had it "fairly easy, aside from one day while working on a boat" when he got a few blisters from handling a rope. On Dec. 30th, he said "Not much hard work except last night for six hours when we were throwing boxes around that weigh 100 pounds or more." He had told of making one move by airplane.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

T/5 Edgar A. Dormer writes from "Somewhere in Belgium" that he is well quartered, faring nicely and getting good food. He says "I have traversed France, having seen St. Lo and that gala city, Paris. I have also seen Liege, Belgium, another fine, modern, progressive city. Recently my adventures have carried me into Germany, seeing Aachen and a few other places on 'holy German soil.' It's rather bleak and desolate now under the ravages of war. I might add that I have just recently seen the renaissance of the Luftwaffe."

Cpl. Edward H. Esche (Signal Battalion) writes: "I have moved to the Philippines which is a little more civilized than the parts of New Guinea that I saw. Some of the people like to do all they can to help us. Then there is the class that wants everything handed to them. At first upon our arrival we were giving them clothing until we were stopped. It was a good thing or we would be wearing the fig leaf ourselves. When you enter a place like this and see how the people have been living and how they have been mistreated, you just can't help feeling sorry for them...Went to church services Christmas morn, with Army Chaplain and civilian services combined which made us feel very much at home, being mixed among civilians."

Writing from Italy, Sgt. James J. Moonan (Bomb Group) says he was glad to get the "Hopewell News" telling where Harold "Butch" Johnson was located (England). They had worked together for a couple of years.....Bill Boozor is at home right now, coming from New Mexico where he is getting Aviation Cadet training. It was his first time back since he went into the Air Corps a year ago. He previously was at the Univ. of Michigan.....Albort H. Benson, husband of the former Alice M. Bellis, has been promoted to a Captaincy, and is in Detroit assigned to the Development Division of the Army Ordnance Headquarters....

Pfc. Robert A. Van Doren, after seeing action in the Pacific with a Signal Battalion, is now at a rest camp. He describes it as containing .16 acres on which they raise cucumbers, tomatoes, sweet corn, cantoloupe and watermelons. The land is fertile, he adds, and the cucumber vines are heavy yielders.....Hilbert Hurley, assigned to an LST and serving as a Q.M.3/c, is said to be out in the Pacific....George C. Koeppl S1/c, is engaged to Miss Joanie Mahan, of Pennington....Captain Joe Ginter had a brief stay at home shortly after Christmas and reported on life in Texas --he is at Porrin Field with the Air Corps--to his congregation at a covered-dish supper reception. He told how barren the State appeared when he first saw it and related a conversation with a Texan about it. Dezzie Casey, who comes from Texas, rose after Mr. Ginter spoke and said that Mr. Ginter was lucky to be alive, as few persons who cast reflections on the State of Texas ever lived to repeat their story.

Pfc. Nickolas Gusoppo, is in Germany with a Medical Detachment. Writing on Christmas Day, he said: "Today is Christmas and they managed to bring us a turkey dinner even though we wore on the front lines. It kinda gave the men some Christmas spirit...I've seen many small towns but none as good as our little town back home and I certainly will be glad when I set foot back there again...The countryside is similar to ours but the houses are different. They are made of stone and brick and have tile roofs. The streets are laid with stone, are narrow, and the houses nearly all join together."

Pfc. Joseph Murodda writes: "This is a guy named Joe somewhere in Germany, feeling fine as ever and hoping you and all of Hopewell had a real cookin' time both Christmas and New Year's Day. We GI's look forward to the year 1945 bringing us home. I'd like to gaze once again on that little town of Hopewell."

Pvt. William J. Ashton is now at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, with an Infantry Training Battalion. He had been at Lexington, Va. previously, and agrees that he was lucky in spending some time in school after going into uniform. He says it didn't seem just right for him to be going to school when his buddies, Russ Holcombe (missing with no further word as yet), Bill Johnson and Hartwell Vannoy, had gone overseas.

Herbert E. Wilson, S2/c, has been assigned to a ship at Norfolk, Va. and is in pre-commissioning training with the rest of the crew. He says: "Once you get assigned to a ship, they really train you for the job you are to do aboard ship and it sure keeps us busy trying to do all they expect in the time allotted." Later, they will put their ship through a shake-down cruise .

ENTERING SERVICE

John Cromwell has signed up for the Naval Reserve and passed his physical tests at New York a few days ago. He expects to be called quite soon. He is Junior at Princeton High.....Orville Carkhuff, Jr. goes to Fort Dix and into the Army training routine tomorrow, Jan. 24th.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The proprietor of the music store had been instructing a new clerk. At luncheon time, he prepared to leave the new clerk in charge.

"If a customer wants to see a violin, what do you show him?" he asked the boy. The latter indicated the violins.

"Or if they ask for a trumpet?" The boy pointed to the correct brass.

"And if they wish to see a lyre?" the proprietor inquired--

"Oh, I'll tell them to wait until you come back!" the boy replied.

BRIEF ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Russell P. Drake are in Florida, going to St. Petersburg. Mrs. Lester Paul has a broken wrist, being tripped by their dog as she was about to go outdoors. Clarence A. Runyon was elected as president of the Fire Company the With Samuel E. Copner as chief, and George Voorhees, Ernest Adler, Jr. and Reynold Dansberry as his assistants.

Charles Wyckoff is suffering with a mangled hand, due to a mishap at Eastern Aircraft. He was making a part for his machine while a girl, wearing a sweater, stood nearby. Suddenly she called for him to shut off the machine. As he turned, he saw that her sweater was caught in the machine and she was being drawn into it, her shoulder being in immediate danger. He reached to shut off the machine but failing to locate the shut-off, he seized the girl's sweater, with the result that his hand was drawn into moving parts of the machine. Others shut off the power, but the damage was done to his hand, while the girl had an extremely narrow escape.

Leigh Hurley is trying to get caught up on his reading, one of his friends giving him a stack of "Ranch Romances" and similar magazines for a little joke at Christmastime. Miss Edna Riley has accepted a position with Reynolds Research, Inc. at Glen Cove, Long Island, as librarian. She previously was with the Radar Laboratories at Camp Evans, near Belmar, N.J. Miss Anna E. Hill became the bride of Lieut. (j.g.) Ernest S. Reeren, of Malverne, N.Y. on Jan. 10th, the wedding ceremony being held in the Hopewell Presbyterian Church. Scott Dansberry, Jr. underwent a nasal operation at Mercer Hospital a few days ago.

The Leroy Blackwells, of Hart Avenue, must have decided the other night that the Baptists were determined about having choir rehearsal there, instead of next door at the Clifford Higgins'. Dolbert and Della Conover mistook the house and were well inside, but a bit puzzled, when they concluded there was some mistake. A few minutes later, Robert Temple also went to Blackwell's. Llewellyn S. Farley, of Hart Avenue, still hospitalized after an accident near Linvale, has had ten blood transfusions as well as plasma. He underwent an operation this past week. In the crackup, he sustained a fracture of the skull as well as fractures of both arms. He had been out of the Army only a short time with a medical discharge, following service of about four years in Alaska.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Two Pennsylvania Dutchmen living at Reading were discussing the war.

"Will dey soon be in Berlin?" one asked.

"It all depends," the other replied, "dese V-bombs are going to hit New York, they say."

"Yah!" the other exclaimed, "and they say they might hit Reading. Vat do you think, would they do dat, do you think?"

"Nein, nein," the other replied, "they wouldn't do that. They know the battlefield is down at Gettysburg!"

Mr. K.--"That now fellow on the third floor boasts that he has kissed every woman in this flat except one."

Mrs. K.--"I'll bet that's that stuck-up Mrs. Murphy upstairs."

"I never felt so punk in all my life."

"Do any drinking last night?"

"Yos, and when I went to bed I felt fine. But when I woke up, I felt terrible. It was the sleep that did it."

Here's health to the girl who can dance like a dream,
And the girl who can pound the piano;
And health to the girl who writes verse by the ream
Or tops with high C in soprano;
To the girl who can talk and the girl who does not;
To the saint and the sweet little sinner;
But here's to the cleverest girl of the lot--
The girl who can cook a good dinner.

THE EDITOR CHATS

Enjoyed paying you another visit via the "Hopewell News." Hope you've found it interesting. Appreciate all the letters being received, those from old friends as well as those who have written since the mailing list was expanded to include all Hopewell fellows who are in military service. It just seems that I can never satisfy that desire of those who are away from home for news about "the other fellow." So letters are welcomed.

Date of next issue--about February 13 (should reach you about three weeks from the date that this one arrived).

Best of luck to you.

DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor,

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

Hopewell News

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU
-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 3

Hopewell, N.J., February 13, 1945

34th Issue

TIME TO CROW

This issue of the "Hopewell News" marks the beginning of its third year. Yes, two full years have elapsed since its first appearance, and as the rooster in the barnyard said: "Part on me, girls, but it's time to crow!" As a matter of fact, the "News" has grown so rapidly, many of its present readers aren't familiar with its background. To those who have seen only the last few issues, we can only say, "Sorry you missed the early train."

Running on a schedule of "every third week," the "Hopewell News" now reaches 170 in military service from Hopewell and vicinity, as well as about 250 others who live here or nearby. So over 400 copies are required--quite a jump from the 140 copies being issued a year ago. They travel, of course, to the far corners of the globe and many fellows write that they pass the copies along to their buddies. So the number of readers can only be guessed.

Each issue during the past year has contained 5,200 to 5,400 words, or about four and a half columns of news if placed in a full-sized newspaper. That makes a total for the year of about 90,000 words, or the equivalent of one and a half full-length books! As for its content--well, that reminds me of a remark made by one of the owners of Trenton's newspapers, who said: "Nothing much ever happens in Trenton." NO? Then he should move to Hopewell. For things do happen in Hopewell--so much that it's always a problem to cram the news into each issue. Small-town stuff? Perhaps, but many people who live in a big city actually live in a smaller world than if they resided in a friendly town like Hopewell.

Friends have been generous in their compliments and with their dollars to assist in covering the materials and postage. Once again, personally and in behalf of the fellows in the Armed Forces for whom the "Hopewell News" is chiefly designed, "Thanks a lot, everybody."

HONOR ROLL EXPANDS

The Honor Roll on display in Calvary Baptist Church now has several additional names upon it, these being added with appropriate ceremonies on Sunday, Feb. 11th. The list now contains 46 names, six being newly added. These who were specially honored at this time are: Paul A. Ashton, B. Carl Hillman, Paul McCarty, John "Jack" Wycloffi, John H. Whnant and Charles Palmatier.

The ceremony, conducted by the Pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, included the reading of the names, a responsive dedication pledging loyalty to these in the service and the ideals of the Church and the Nation, and a special prayer (as every Sunday) for those in the armed forces. The congregation included members of Hopewell's Boy Scout Troop, No. 26, with Robert Copner in charge, who were observing Boy Scout Week.

Of the 46 on the Honor Roll, five have been honorably discharged. They are: William Snook, C. Lloyd Drake, Wilfred Gray, Paul McCarty and Oliver Jenkins.

PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGNERS

With the capture of Manila as exciting news of the past few days, letters just received from Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, and Cpl. Graham L. Benson were more than welcome. Bob Hill, incidentally, had his new rating, third-class machinist mate, goes into effect as of Feb. 1, advancing from Pl/c. In his letter, Bob writes: "We have four stars in our Asiatic-Pacific campaign bar now (he's aboard an attack transport): Leyte, the first major operation in the Philippines; Saipan and Tinian of the Marianas to be sure that and the latest operation which censorship ruling will not permit me to tell about yet, Saipan, as you know, is where the B-29's are now operating from, hitting the Jap homeland."

Cpl. Graham Benson, whose whereabouts in the Pacific was anybody's guess for quite a while, wrote on Jan. 30th that "I am in the Philippines" with the U.S. Marines." He added: "I can't tell you the name of the island but it has had its name in the newspapers plenty. At present all is very quiet here except for the hum of our planes. I finally am doing the work I have been trained for, that is, mechanic on a plane. At present there is not much work to it, but occasionally a plane will come in that needs work done on it, but not too often."

CLOSE CALL

A bullet from a German machine-gun inflicted a chest wound upon Pfc. William E. Johnson, of 93 West Broad Street, on Jan. 5th in Belgium, but Bill writes from a hospital in France that "My wound was definitely superficial, a near miss." Bill had gone overseas quite recently and his outfit, it is understood, had been thrown into action almost immediately when the German bulge developed. All of this happened to Bill before his 19th birthday, which was Jan. 16th. Writing earlier to his parents, Bill said: "You may rest comfortably again, 'cause I am. I've been averaging 12 hours' sleep a day and have listened to real American 'jive' for the first time in months. We also get to see movies regularly. All in all, I'd say that getting slightly wounded was one of the best breaks I've had in the ETO." Previously Bill had reported that "I will certainly appreciate warmth and cleanliness when I return. We were located in France for a very short while, bivouacked in an apple orchard. But our outfit is moving awfully fast, as you can guess, so I haven't much time to myself."

HOME AT THE RIGHT TIME

Ferrest Lowe, serving in the Merchant Marine, can thank his lucky stars that he was home Feb. 5th for his ship, loaded with 120,000 barrels of high-octane gasoline, was rammied by an incoming vessel in New York Harbor. An explosion resulted in the death of about 20 seamen and injuries to more than 100 others. Forrest had been across the Atlantic on the tanker and fortunately had been given leave on its return and was due to go aboard another ship. When the collision occurred, many of the seamen jumped into the water covered with burning oil and swam under water. Forrest also found that luck was with him on the trans-Atlantic trip, as a torpedo from a German submarine missed the tanker by only 150 feet.

CENSUS FIGURES DISPUTED

That item in the previous issue, reporting that an old residenter recently took a count of Hepewell's widows and old-maids and arrived at a total of 121, seems to have started something. For a letter was quickly forthcoming, signed "A Widow," which said:

"Your census man's figures were about as accurate as a Gallup poll at election time. Tell him to take a pencil-net mentally--and figure bachelors and widowers, even if most of the latter are married again." Then the unidentified "Widow" proceeds to list 21 widowers in the East end of town, but designates five of them as deceased. (Note: those in the "Widows and Old-Maids Census" were very much alive) Then the anonymous writer added this telling blow: "A woman is as young as she looks; a man is young until he quits looking."

ARTHUR HIXSON DIES

Injuries sustained by S/Sgt. Arthur P. Hixson, 21, who lived East of the Borough, caused his death on Dec. 30th in Belgium. He was serving with a tank battalion in Germany on the previous day when injured. Before going in the Army in Jan., 1943, Arthur had worked at the Eagle Bakery. He received his training at Fort Knox, Ky.

PARVIN STRYKER RECEIVES PURPLE HEART

Marine Corporal Parvin R. Stryker, Jr., who was wounded in the battle for Saipan, has sent his Purple Heart award home. He also is entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge, as he belongs to the Fourth Marine Division which received a Presidential citation for courage and outstanding performance of duty on Saipan and Tinian in the Mariana Islands. Stryker has been in the North Pacific a year, taking part in the battles for Roi, Namur, Marshall Islands, and Saipan in the Marianas. Recently, he saw Arch Adams who had gone to the same base where Parvin is, as a replacement.

WHITE ELEPHANTS

White elephants were being sold at the Elementary School the other day--these being articles that you were glad to pass along to a new owner. The Eighth Grade ran the sale in the auditorium with Gus Castranova and John Murphy as auctioneers. There was some lively bidding. The bids for a basketball ran up to \$2.25 before it was sold--on credit--and then the next day the buyer reluctantly reported that he couldn't take it as his Mother had overruled him. There were two kittens, too, that were put up for sale. One sold for ninety cents, but the would-be buyer had the same trouble as the basketball purchaser. So the kitten was returned to the donor, Celeste King, who had been given it by Jerry McAlinden, who didn't want it back as they had kittens to spare. Other odds and ends were auctioned off more successfully, including heaps of comic books. Near the end of the sale, one lot of 13 comics went for 20 cents.

Speaking of "white elephant sales," they held one some time ago in Pennington. One man, aiding his wife in her search for something to donate, took a piece of pottery and ground off the words "Made in Japan," then donated it to the cause. While the sale was in progress, a purchaser came along--a woman who paid \$1.50 for the article and exclaimed: "What lovely Italian pottery!"

"HOT" SOUP

There is hot soup--and "hot" soup, as a boy at Hopewell's Elementary School learned to his regret recently. The school lunchroom, now operated on the cafeteria plan, was well-filled. One prankster decided to put pepper in the soup of a companion while he thought the latter wasn't looking. But the act was detected and Mr. Whitcraft, the new principal, informed. So what did he do? He just made the jokester eat the soup with the pepper in it. About 2:30 P.M., the latter reported to his teacher: "I don't feel very good.

Mr. Whitcraft says that Hopewell looks promising, that the pupils have initiative and everything will be done to develop it further. He is studying at the Univ. of Penna. for his Master's degree.

ED SHEPPARD IS HOME AGAIN

Cpl. Edwin T. ("Shep") Shoppard is around town again, after making a round trip of over 6,000 miles for an operation. And best of all, he is hopeful of remaining in the East for six months or more, as he reports at Quantico, Va. on Feb. 27 and may stay there a while. He is in Ordnance with the U.S. Marines and saw duty during the seizure of Tinian and Saipan. As a matter of fact, "Shep" wears two ribbons, his Asiatic-Pacific ribbon bearing three stars to indicate three campaigns, and the Presidential citation with a star, the star indicating that he was there with the Fourth Marine Division when the citation was earned.

Ed's operation involved a leg injury he suffered while on a landing barge. His orders, when he was home in November fresh from the Pacific war zone, called for him to return to the West Coast. He was hospitalized at San Diego for about a month. Then he was sent to Sampson, N.Y. for about a week, then to Brooklyn Navy Yard, then to Phila. Navy Yard, where his present furlough was arranged. Ed is in good shape and pleased about the chance to be in those parts for a while.

WORD AWAITED

Several Hopewell fellows have been on the move and word of their arrival overseas is being awaited by the folks back home. There is Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, who has acquired all the skills of a Paratrooper since he went into that branch in Sept. '43; he has been in the service over four years, previously being a bandsman. Also, Pvt. William S. Conover (Infantry) who was in Panama for 33 months and more recently in North Carolina, Georgia and Texas, quite certainly went out recently. Another is Pvt. John Garrett Conover (not related) who trained at Camp Croft, S.C. and managed to be home for a few hours three nights in a row before he sailed. Pvt. Leonard W. Vandewater also sailed; it appears, and came mighty close to going exactly six months from the day he entered the service. He had been in Georgia and South Carolina. Pvt. Orville A. Wyckoff, Jr. (Infantry) also embarked recently and a letter that he wrote when five days out at sea has been received stating that he hadn't been seasick but many others couldn't say as much.

WHAT WEATHER!

Anybody who can boast of escaping a mean spill during the past six weeks of icy pavements and long-lingering snow has done well. For the streets and sidewalks of Hopewell have really been "sumthin". Several people broke bones on the icy walks. Mrs. G. Newell Holcombe broke her left arm in two places; Mrs. Lou Etta Ianing, on her way to work, fell on Lafayette Street and x-rays show two broken bones in her ankle; Katherine Doman, Seventh Grade pupil who lives opposite the former Weart store, has a mending arm, and the same goes for Mrs. Zulauf--and the list is not complete.

ALAN HART ENGAGED

Sgt. Alan F. Hart may have wondered why he was sent to India, but now it's quite clear--Fate (in the form of U.S. Army orders) directed him there so he could meet the right girl--and now he's engaged. Yes, a Red Cross worker on duty in India caught his eye and now they are doing their planning jointly. She is Miss Barbara Curtis Drake, of Brockton, Mass., who had served as registrar at the New Britain Teachers' College in Connecticut up to 1943. She has been in India for a year. A wedding date has not been set.

QUITE A DOG!

Dr. Herbert Swertfeger owns a dog--a species of greyhound--that is a keyhole watcher! Smart dog, all right, and smart enough to keep everything that he sees to himself. The other night, the dog slid into the waiting room when a patient arrived. He was sociable momentarily, then patients noticed that he was sitting back on his haunches, about four feet from the door to the office. His head moved slightly from time to time but he kept his long pointed nose directed toward the door and his ears in the alert position. Then it was discovered that he apparently was in a favorite spot--where he could detect immediately if anyone inside was moving about. When Dr. Swertfeger opened the door, the dog walked in as if he was the next patient, but was hurried through into the living quarters.

(4)
WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pfc. John F. "Jack" Van Lieu sends glowing reports about China. "This is wonderful country up here," he writes. "Living conditions and the food are in direct contrast to that which we were getting before we came here. (He had been in Assam, India.)....I attended a church service at a village near one of my former bases, and the service was conducted by a Welsh Presbyterian minister. Our choir went down and furnished music for them. It was quite an experience as Christian Indians aren't very common....I never had the pleasure nor opportunity of meeting any Baptist missionaries but I have heard of Dr. E.S. Downs. He performed a service for some of the boys of our units who were killed. He partook in a search which located the bodies and saw to it that they were cared for properly. His work was very commendable."

Harold VanLieu, A.O.M.2/c, is now at Groton, Conn. after quite a stay at Atlantic City. While Groton is a "sub" base, Harold is only there because New London was overcrowded. He anticipates orders that will send him to sea where his training in carrier aircraft ordnance service can be utilized....His brother, S/Sgt. Dennis P. VanLieu, has undergone an arm operation at Lawson Hospital, Atlanta, Ga. It was delayed because a skin infection had developed.

Pfc. B. Carl Hillman is in Hawaii with a Signal Aircraft Warning battalion. He has nothing but praise for the island, but wishing at the same time that all of his friends could be there with him.

Norman G. Boagland, who is "Somewhere in Germany" is now a Corporal, with his own "jeep" to drive and maintain since he is serving as agent for his Field Artillery battalion. He describes the "jeep" as "a real fresh air taxi." He adds "I have to do a lot of 'blackout' driving and it really does get dark here at times." On Jan. 28th he wrote: "Everything is going well here. The Russians are pouring it on and if the Krauts don't halt them soon, we will be watching for vehicles with red stars on them. They seem to thrive on this Winter weather and I am definitely not a Russian." Mentioning that the December drive by the Germans must have been "very disheartening to the folks at home," Norman continued: "I can't help but feel that the recent bad news has served a good purpose. It has jarred the optimism out of the home front and has awakened them to the fact victory is not right around the corner and that the enemy is still capable of slapping us down. I say this, and I think I speak for all my buddies when I say it, that I have complete and sincere faith in our Allied commanders and that they are going to lead us thru to complete victory. We are all a bit peeved at some of the people at home and their letting down on the production business but they will now get 'on the ball' and give their best, I am sure."

Lt. Kenneth R. Burroughs, with numerous missions over Germany as a bombardier, wrote Feb. 1 from his base in England as follows: "Today has been a fairly quiet day for me. There hasn't been anything on the schedule; I have spent most of the day next to a nice warm fire." He also commented that "If 'Comrado Joe' keeps up his good work the day when we come back to Hopowell may be here sooner than we dared hope at Christmas."

Pvt. Harry E. McCandless, studying radio mechanics at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, hopped over to Abilene, Texas, on a recent week-end to see his brother, Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless, who is at the Army Air Base there. It was a long ride by train and bus but the brothers hadn't seen each other in over a year. For when Tom was back in Hopowell some time ago, Harry had gone into the service and was in California.

S/Sgt. C. "Rog" Hurloy, on a Pacific Island with a Coast Artillery battery, relates how he spent Christmas with a native family, the man in the family having been in the Navy during World War I. He writes: "My little friend (a boy that he aided) gave me a very pretty gift that he made, but I cannot send it home because he engraved the name of the island on it. It is a little machetto that can be used as a letter opener. It is made out of stainless steel from a Jap plane and has a handle of bone from a caribou's horn...For eats we had barbecued caribou, wild chicken, fish and rice, clear soup and a native sweet cake. I do not know the native names for the stuff but it was surprisingly good. Of course, I would not think of eating in any ordinary native place but this family is very clean and they live in a clean, if not a pretty, home."

Pvt. Paul A. Ashton is now at Ellington Field, 16 miles from Houston, Texas. He went there from Keesler Field, Miss. He says "Ellington Field is really swell" while he also has taken quite a liking to Houston, describing it as "spic and span." Before leaving Keesler Field, he qualified for Marksman and Sharpshooter awards.

Cpl. Frank P. Jones, of Mount Rose, has received an Air Medal for extraordinary achievement as a member of an air supply-dropping platoon in India.

Jane Gray, of the WAVES, was in town recently and expected it would be her last glimpse of Hopowell for a while as she expects to go to Hawaii. She received her WAVE training in the South, chiefly in Florida.

Cpl. Ira B. Allen is doing M.P. duty at Sixth Army Group headquarters in France. The Group is comprised of the American Seventh Army and the French First Army. They previously were in North Africa.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

John Boice, MM2/c, tells of his good-luck in meeting his brother-in-law, Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell when the latter first arrived with his Infantry outfit in ETO. Boice wrote from Southampton where he has been for quite some time. He says the city shows many signs of the "blitz" of 1940-41. He had recently visited Salisbury Cathedral, which is over 700 years old. Near his billet is a bronze plaque marking the spot from which the Pilgrims embarked for America.

Pfc. Wilbur U. Hurley, formerly of Stoutsburg, who had been at Columbia, S.C. for quite some time, is believed to be enroute overseas....Lt. (j.g.) Ted A. Pierson 3rd, who is an Engineer, is in the Admiralty Isles close to the equator in the Pacific. Writing on Jan. 29th with an electric fan at his side, he said it is hard to imagine snow at home. In his building are other engineers and photographers, who at Christmas time collected brush to make a Christmas tree under which they placed their Christmas boxes.

Pvt. Thomas Pessol (Marines) has moved from Parris Island to Camp Lejeune, New River, N.C. after a visit back home. He is guessing that he is going to see California soon. He thinks that his knitted green underwear (which he was wearing while in town) is the "cats."....Pvt. James H. Hall also has been in town and reports back to an Embarkation Centre in Maryland. He was at Fort McCollan, Ala., has had special demolition training with the Infantry and told of "booby" traps and their detection while speaking to the Hopewell Scout Troop of which he was Assistant Scoutmaster.

Pvt. Walter W. Knorr (Infantry) who was wounded in the leg and moved to a hospital in England for treatment, is said to be back with his old outfit in France....Pvt. Hartwell Vannoy is in Belgium and recently told of taking supper with an elderly couple who even provided sugar and butter....Pvt. Orville L. Carkhuff, who went into the Army a short time back, has gone from Fort Dix to Camp Wheeler, Ga. He had hoped to be assigned to the Navy but agreed that "the Army's O.K."--even though it was a new experience making his own bed..

Paul Cuttor is now in China after being at three locations in India....Willis Groen also is with the Army in India, and has written that they live for the broadcast programs from home. Movies are available nearby but the native tongue is used, and that is quite a handicap....Capt. Donald Selbie, who was in India, is now believed to be on Saipan....H.E. Miller, Jr., C.C.M. in the Seabees, is under treatment in a Honolulu hospital, having suffered an arm injury and also having a fungus infection to combat. He is the husband of the former Florence Hart....Rayford Adams, of Skillman, has come back from duty in the Pacific with the Marines to attend Officer Training School. It is learned that he had a close call, falling asleep in a fox-hole from sheer exhaustion, only to awaken and find a Jap lying on the ground close by. A fellow Marine, however, did some split-second thinking, diverted the Jap and saved Rayford.

John "Jack" P. Lamson has been commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Army Air Forces, completing his training at Turner Field, Georgia, and then getting home for the first time in about two years. He expects duty as an instructor.....Cpl. Kent F. Nickerson, who was in the South Pacific for 14 months with a Marine Aircraft Wing, was married Jan. 17th to Dorothy Joanne Wimer, of Pennington Road. He is now stationed at Quantico, Va. and his bride is living at Fredericksburg nearby. He shared in a citation won by his outfit in attacking the Marshall Islands and neutralizing the islands of Roi and Namur.

Lieut. Fred Boice, who is doing aerial photography work in the Pacific, has been travelling with the B-29's. Recently he wrote that "Tokyo was still there the last time I saw it" and added that he expected to have another look as soon as "transportation" was arranged....William Gurka, WT2/c, had a furlough recently and came home from duty with the Pacific Fleet.....T/4 Hosea Hopkins is with a tank-destroyer outfit of the First Army, somewhere in Belgium....Andrew Montolone, GM1/c, has been at Leyte, in the Philippines, his PT boat now having participated in almost a score of combat patrols.

Pvt. Arthur Yard is at Amarillo, Texas, with the AAF. His wife, Helen, has been visiting him, her second trip there. He says that "Texas has one good point--we get plenty of steaks here...Pfc. Ray Otis, formerly of Hopewell, is at Camp Lejeune, N.C., with the Marines in the Officers Candidate School. He has been in the Marines over two years and has seen varied types of duty--prison guard, brig warden, truck driver, motorcycle patrolman, bugler, bandsman and now an Officer Candidate.

Horbert E. Wilson, S2/c (Rdm) has moved from Norfolk, Va. to Charleston, S.C. His brother, S/Sgt. Thomas I. Wilson, who left Hopewell and lived in the West after studying forestry in college, went overseas about Thanksgiving time and has been at the front in France....For Joseph A. McAlinden, there was a promotion recently and he is now a Motor Machinist Mate 3/c, and is located near the Panama Canal Zone. His brother, Sgt. Merritt J. McAlinden, Jr., is with the Ninth Army in Belgium.

Lieut. Marcello Sommovigo is flying planes between India and China with the Air Transport Command; previously he ferried planes from Great Falls, Montana, to Alaska. During one of the latter trips, he parachuted from a plane that caught fire and exploded over British Columbia, Canada. Sommovigo was burned about the face and hands at the time, but his radio distress call brought rescuers. He was first reached by an Idaho flight surgeon who was awarded an Air Medal during a radio program recently for his part in the event.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

George F. Rightmire, RM3/c, was in Continental Europe when he wrote on Jan. 14th. He estimated at the time that he had covered 55,394 nautical miles on trips to all corners of the earth, as well as about 16,150 miles by train. While going to "boot" camp, radio training schools, etc., he crossed the States three times. His sea voyages took him through the Panama Canal twice, around Cape Horn (South America); to South Africa; Mozambique, East Africa; Cuba, New Caledonia, Fiji Islands, Northern Island and three trips to England....T/Sgt. James N. Daniels, who saw action in the Pacific during a long stay out there, was home recently on furlough....Capt. Edgar T. Savidge is back in action in Germany after being wounded. He went overseas in August. His wife gave birth to a daughter on Jan. 15th at Plainfield, where she is living.

CHURCH EVENTS

Coal-saving has reduced activities in Central Baptist Church to a minimum temporarily. Soft-coal has been in use and if Pastor Raymond A. Gray should preach a "fire-and-brimstone" sermon, there wouldn't be much left to the imagination....As an added complication, the organ motor developed a roar that sounded as if a cross-cut saw was in use in the church basement. It was due to the blades on the blower fan hitting the side of the box that contains it.....The Men's Group has had several enjoyable evenings of late. One program featured Max Laird and his color slides showing hunting and fishing experiences in Maine....The Church School Board held a covered-dish supper-Valentine party on Feb. 8th, enjoying the "eats" and games....Pastor Gray used his share of the Christmas purse from the church to buy a wrist watch, and already has had it back for a new crystal....Adele Laning has been named president of the newly formed World Wide Guild group, with Lois Wyckoff as secretary and Anne Woolston as vice-president....In a recent Missionary collection, a "token" sold by the Phila. Rapid Transit Company, was found but it was decided that it wouldn't be of much value if sent to the mission field in some distant country....In the Men's Class one Sunday, Pastor Gray referred to the origin of the calendar, saying: "Let me see, we have what is called the Julian calendar, do we not?" To that, Scott Danaberry, Jr. replied: "I don't know about you, but we get ours from J. B. Hill & Sons."

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN IN BRIEF

John Cromwell, 18 on Lincoln's Birthday, expected to be called for duty in the Naval Reserve before the end of the week....With outside commercial lighting restricted to save coal and electricity, the Colonial Theatre obtained a neon-light installation, thereby keeping within the 60-watt limit.....Mrs. Adrian S. Smith, of East Prospect Street, found a cake, trimmed with gold, awaiting her, along with other gifts, when she went to the Red Cross workroom the other day. Mr. and Mrs. Smith observed their 50th wedding anniversary and held open house for their friends.

Former Mayor J. Gilbert Leming died recently in Lincoln, Nebraska, at the age of 93. He had made the trip out there alone a few months ago, despite his years....Another who is missed is Russell S. Lanning, Reading towman, who died Jan. 7th after a heart attack about a week earlier.....Mrs. Ruth Vaughn, wife of Hopewell's dentist, was in Mercer Hospital for five days for observation....Homer Schanck has retired from the H.A. Smith Company where he had worked for 45 years. Employees gave a party in his honor at the school building and presented gifts....These days, cars parked in a certain spot on Seminary Avenue throw a blinding glare into the Cox & Gray barber-shop, so the proprietors keep a blanket handy to throw on the car if it looks as if it is going to be parked there all afternoon.

A boy was helping to stock the shelf in a Hopewell grocery store, putting up cans of Nestle's Lion brand condensed milk. He peused in his work, read the label a time or two to himself, then asked: "What's the difference between lion's milk and cow's milk?".....Enoch Drake, 82, of Hart Avenue, died last week....George Clark was elected president of the Sourland Mountain Sport Club at its annual dinner meeting held a few nights ago....Mr. Robert Fuss, who recently bought the Braunworth newspaper agency, is seeking a buyer as he and his wife want to return to their home in Indiana.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A WAC went for a walk in the woods. Coming to a beautiful lake, she decided to go for a swim. She laid her clothes carefully on the ground and took a dip. As she emerged, she saw a lieutenant coming down the path. Not having time to dress, she hid behind a tree. The officer approached and shouted: "Camouflage Company No. 1 is dismissed!" All the trees marched off.

IN CLOSING

Sponsors of this issue are: Mrs. Marie Loveloss, Howard Quick, Irving Fullfish, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Lamonte Dye, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Vandewater.

Date of next issue--March 6: Carry on--and best of luck to you.

HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 4

Hopewell, N.J., March 6, 1945

35th Issue

SURPRISE

Hello, everybody--here we are again, dishing out another big serving of "Hopewell News." Before going ahead, however, I want to tell you about a most gracious act that followed the announcement in the last issue that the "Hopewell News" was beginning its third year. In my mail there came a novel greeting card--in reality a large paper bag printed up with fancy red and blue lettering. It was signed "VanDoren, Snook and Lawson"--meaning Mrs. John VanDoren and her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Lawson, of East Broad Street, and Anna, Elsie and Mary Snook, of Princeton Avenue. The "paper-bag message" read as follows:

"On this paper anniversary, hope you'll bag a lot of joys,
And have a celebration, too, with lots and lots of noise!
And hope you'll find the kind of fun where nothing comes to stop it--
Start now to have a 'Bang-Up' time--just blow this up and POP IT!"

Now isn't that sumthin'! This little publishing venture never ceases to be filled with surprises, and that's one reason why there's a lot of fun attached to getting out the "News."

ON THE OTHER SIDE

Letters have come through in the past few days reporting the safe arrival overseas of several Hopewell fellows. Thus has ended that period of uncertainty when the incoming mails are eagerly watched.

Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, paratrooper, wrote on Feb. 12th that he was in France where "Instead of Jersey accent, all you hear is jibbering going a mile a minute" (and Erwin studied in French in High School!) He commented that the trip over was "a nice boat ride but I'm not made for the Navy." He added: "I'm in the best of health and believe I'm gaining weight rapidly...Have bully mess and almost like home cooking... I hit this country in the rainy season and have seen quite a lot of moisture" but he added that stoves in his hut gave him a chance to dry out.

Pvt. Leonard W. Vandewater (Infantry) also has reached France and speaks of Army life to date as a great experience. He didn't see London, he said, on his way through England. When he moved to an embarkation point, he went right through Hopewell. While in South Carolina training, Leonard gained 35 pounds and now is over 200. "It's a cinch compared with thrashing or pitching hay," he declares.

Pvt. John G. Conover (better known as Garrett) V-mailed from France on Feb. 11, 12th and 13th, stating that he had seen Scotland and England and then had travelled across France by rail for three days. He indicated that he was in the Alsace-Lorraine area, not too far from front-line action. The French way of living amazed him, with the houses and barns all in one. He said it looked to him as if the French regard the manure pile as a prized possession for it usually is heaped in the front yard.

GOING ACROSS

The ships carrying troops to France are still running, too. Paul C. Stryker, of the Elementary School faculty, has just acquired an APO number. He was at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, where he completed Field Artillery training. Paul has acquired a rating as Technician, 5th Class, by reason of his special courses in "Information and Education" at Washington & Lee University in Virginia. His duties include talks to his outfit on the significance of current events, etc. Before moving East last Fall, Paul had seen quite a lot of California and had undergone a jaw operation there.

Indications are that Pvt. James H. Hall (Infantry) has moved out of the country. He was in town for about three hours a short while back and expected that was to be his last glimpse of the old home-town for a while.... Sheldon W. Embley, S2/c is now assigned to sea duty, after working in the maintenance department of a navy boat shop at Mentauk, Long Island.

ARCH LITZEN DOING O. K.

For a fellow mentioned as being "missing in action," Arch Litzen, A.M.M.2/c, writes a very interesting letter! Some of the folks who spread the false story about him must feel a little foolish right now. He says he appreciates the concern shown about him but adds that "the report was a bit fouled up." He is training with a new Naval Air group and soon will go aboard a ship recently launched at Tacoma, Wash. He is based at Seattle, but also has been operating from auxiliary stations in Oregon and Washington.

KEEPING 'EM-GUESSING

They loaded up 84 fellows in front of the Pennington Selective Service Board headquarters bright and early on Feb. 23rd and took them to Newark for a "screening test." That is no new procedure, but the significant thing is that the group consisted exclusively of farm help. As far as is known, the plan in mind was to check upon their fitness as a part of re-classification. The big issue seems to be whether in each case the fellow is necessary at his present job, or whether the Armed Forces have greater need of him. The question is being argued in Congress right now, so naturally nobody knows what the final word will be. The group included the following from Hopewell and vicinity: Carl and Fred Voorhees, Delbert Conover, John Hill, Earl Wert and the five Burd brothers from Pennington (the Burds operate a large farm). A number of farmers declare that they will be unable to go it alone and the yield from their farms will have to be reduced, if their help is taken.

THOSE SHORTAGES

It sounds as if just about everyone in town is going to turn to chicken-raising. That's because meat has been a rather scarce article lately and may continue that way for a while. Right now, most of the poultry owners don't want to sell their fowl for the hens are laying eggs and the latter sell for about 50 cents a dozen.

The coal shortage seems to have eased up a bit, but for a few days soft-coal had to be taken even for home use. Severe winter weather had a lot to do with delays in coal deliveries, and oil tankers coming up the Delaware couldn't make Trenton for a short while. Soft-coal burning has its problems, of course, as they learned in the Cox & Cray barbershop, where the gas fumes blew the lid off the stove three times in the first day or so.

The cigarette shortage is viewed by some as the most serious of all. Lines extending a block long form in Trenton at intervals during the day when stores receive a supply. This forming of lines has created some confusion at State & Broad, as one woman discovered, for she stood in a line that curved around the corner, only to discover that it didn't lead into the cigar store but to a store a few doors up North Broad Street where chickens ("Buy Your Favorite Part") is sold.

And then there is the Hopewell party, who saw a cigarette dealer's auto come into town, and decided to follow and make the rounds. Going from store to store and making purchases, the cigarette hoarder is reported to have wound up with 18 packs.

SGT. STEPHEN MYERS KILLED IN ACTION

Serving with an Armored Field Artillery battalion in Luxembourg, Sgt. Stephen G. Myers met his death on Feb. 15th. A telegram reporting that he had been killed in action reached his wife, Elsie Brown Myers, on Feb. 26th. Their home is on Drake Avenue. Their baby daughter, Elisabeth Ann, was born after Stephen went overseas about a year ago. He had been in the Army since February, 1942, and won a Bronze Star Medal in December for bravery. Stephen was known widely because he had been employed at the Trenton Transit bus terminal in Trenton, selling tickets. He also was known among golfing fans.

John Weisenborger, who lives in the Spencer Moore apartment house, also has received word that a brother has been killed in action in France.

ERNIE BLACKWELL INJURED

Disquieting news about Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry) arrived on Feb. 15 a telegram to his wife stating that he had been injured slightly. Direct word from Ernie followed shortly, and while his exact injuries were not stated, he said he was doing all right but rather uncomfortable. He was in Germany with General Patton's Army when his trouble occurred. He did not give a hospital address and added that he probably would not get any mail until he was back with his outfit--which appeared to indicate that he thought that would be reasonably soon. In earlier letters, Ernie had told of having had 48 hours in a rest camp, while on Jan. 13th he wrote that he had observed his birthday (23rd) on the previous day, "with two years and one month in the Army to date." He also reported on previous action, stating that he had been in the Lorient-St. Nazaire sector. As for earlier travel, he said he had visited Nantes, Lomans, Chartres and Paris, some of the time being during rest periods.

MAYOR TAKES A TUMBLE

Mayor Russell K. Metz has been taking a terrific ribbing, for a man with a broken ankle. The injury occurred while he was at Atlantic City with Borough Attorney David L. Smith attending a meeting. Since that time, he has been around on crutches, although taken to his bank job in an auto. But the kidding is due to the fact that x-ray pictures were developed by Doc Amos Stultz, the veterinarian. The Mayor has been told that it's a strange state of affairs when a "horse-doctor" has to be called in. Then to add to it, the Mayor is said to have received through the mails a booklet entitled "The Barnyard Doctor," describing the nature of various ailments and their treatment, but it's reported that Mayor Metz isn't too sure who sent it to him. He has several persons under suspicion.

Knowing something about boys, Scoutmaster Robert Copner provided plenty of food for the dinner held Feb. 26th with Dads of the Scouts as special guests. The affair was well attended and held in the basement of Calvary Baptist Church.

A campaign to provide suitable meeting quarters (they still meet in the old building between the Eagle Bakery and Grange Hall) was announced. Louis W. Heavner, Chairman of the Troop Committee, is directing the drive, with \$500 set as the goal.

Bob Copner read a history of the Troop #26, which started in 1911, and mentioned the part in the War being taken by former members. Wheeler McMillen, editor of the Farm Journal, was the chief speaker and told of his boyhood in Indiana and the way in which Scouting helps to build character. Scoutmaster Copner reminded the fellows that one of these days they were going to repay McMillen by going out to his farm on Stony Brook Road and clearing stone from one of his fields. Other speakers and guests were Earl B. Whitcraft, school principal; Rev. Joseph Kerr, who directs the Troop at St. Michael's Children's Home; H. S. Rockwell, David Bellis, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, Chief Scout Executive George Davey and Commissioner Lewis Lawton.

The Scouts enjoyed "seconds" on the ice cream--and the Dads did, too. Home-made layer cake also went over big.

JOHNSON RETURNS TO DUTY

Pfc. William Johnson has returned to his outfit, having recovered from a chest wound while in action in Belgium on Jan. 5th. Earlier, he had reported that while a machine gun bullet was involved, the injury was not severe. He was hospitalized in France.

SIGNING HIM UP

Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) is in Germany and with a war still on his hands, but he has revealed that Hopewell residents are trying to sign him up for painting and decorating work when he returns. Commenting upon it, Norman wrote: "I wish I could start tomorrow but we have a much more important contract to finish here first." (Incidentally, his first job will be at the home of Dr. Raymond Vaughn where he was working when Uncle Sam took him off the job.) Norman added: "I can hardly wait to get back to my brushes and paint pot. I have always enjoyed my work and can say that I have had fair success."

Turning to other things, Norman writes: (Germany, Feb. 6) "The war news is very heartening from all fronts. Let's hope it continues that way." Then he told of being bothered by a boil, adding: "Riding in a jeep didn't make it any easier either because the jeep rides pretty rough and every time I would hit a bump I would bounce off the seat and invariably land squarely on the boil on the rebound. It has entirely cleared up now, thanks to fine care by the medics...." Then on Feb. 9th, he wrote: "It is a very pretty day here today and the Air Corps is out in strength and putting on a very impressive show. But underfoot it is a different story. The rain and thaw have turned things into a sea of mud. It is O.K. as long as you can stay on the improved highways but when you turn off onto any secondary road, and often I have to, it is just a gamble whether you will get through. These little jeeps are brutes for such punishment, though, and the way they can plow through mud, water, snow or what have you is really nothing short of miraculous. Yesterday I had some such experience. I had to hit one of those bad roads and made out fine until one bad stretch about 100 yards long. I got about half way thru and got stuck for sure. A 'peep' was following me so he tried to go by me to give me a pull and he got around me and also got stuck. Along came a big truck and pulled him out and came back for me and he got stuck. After a few minutes along came a tracked vehicle and pulled us both out. I was mud up to my knees but I was glad to be out. The engineers are doing a wonderful job keeping the roads repaired but naturally can't be everywhere at once."

THAT "WIDOWS AND OLD MAID CENSUS"

They're still talking about the unusual census made by a Hopewell man who reported that Hopewell contained 121 widows and old-maids. In fact, one young lady of marriageable age said she was thinking of leaving town before "I get classed as eligible for the '121 Club.'"

Now an unsigned letter has been received which reads: "The census taker was slightly wrong as there are now as many as 125 widows and 40 maiden ladies over 30 in Hopewell Borough. But that raises a delicate question, namely "When is an old-maid?" The dictionary says that a "maid" is a "young, unmarried woman." But where does that leave an old-maid? Just waiting, probably. Surely, it would take a braver man than Ye Editor to say that any woman is an old-maid after 30. Perhaps the best definition of an old-maid is this: A girl who knows all the answers but no one every asked her the question. However, some folk describe an old-maid as "a reflection on ever unmarried man."

"I tumbled over fifty feet this morning."

"Why, you haven't a scratch on you."

"Of course not, I was getting out of a crowded bus."

ACTIVE RED CROSS

Over 200 persons took part in folding surgical dressings at the work-room of the Hopewell branch, American Red Cross, during the past year. In addition, 61 persons kept the knitting needles flying and produced 218 knitted articles. Also, over 1,300 overseas bags were made. At the present moment, the annual Red Cross drive for funds is under way with Samuel K. Hunt acting as chairman. Officers were re-elected recently, including Dr. T.A. Pierson, chairman; Mrs. F.V. Magalhaes, vice chairman; Russell K. Metz, treasurer; Miss Susan S. Weart, secretary. Mrs. T. A. Pierson is chairman of the production committee, with Mrs. Raymond S. VanDyke supervising surgical dressings; Mrs. Amos Stults, knitting; Mrs. Earl Nickerson and Mrs. Magalhaes, sewing.

HIGH FINANCE

Here's a study in high finance. The American Legion Auxiliary finished off a recent meeting with eats, and having a cake left over, decided to auction it off. The cake had cost 69 cents. The bidding was keen and Sarah Dilts was the high bidder at \$2.15. Then someone donated 35 cents to bring the total for the Treasury up to \$2.50. Mrs. Dilts turned around and sold the cake to a friend for 50 cents, and then contributed the half-dollar to the Treasury. To cap the climax, the woman who had donated the 35 cents won the door prize for the evening.

WHERE, O WHERE?

Pvt. Harry E. McCandless, who is in radio school at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, sent a letter in which he stated that "I have a sore on the bottom." He went on to describe it as some sort of a skin ailment. That expression, "On the bottom" seemed a little odd. Then another letter arrived that reported "The sore on the bottom of my foot," etc. Evidently, Harry in his haste to get along with his letter-writing, had neglected to add "of my foot" when he wrote the first time.

In another letter, he said: "Do you know how I just figured out the date? By the way my shoes are laced. We have two pairs of G.I.'s and they make us lace one pair horizontally and the other diagonally, wearing one pair on even days of the month and the other pair on odd days. It's supposed to save wear and tear.... School is going smoothly and I might say monotonously. We're all through with electrical and radio fundamentals and theory and spend our time aligning and tuning different kinds of F.A. radio sets. Soon we will start field work."

SCHOOL ELECTION

A School Board election and a P.T.A. card party, held the same night in the Elementary School building, brought out a considerable number, although it was treacherous travelling due to sleet-covered streets. Three Board members were re-elected, being Raymond S. VanDyke, E. V. Savidge and W. Herbert Jones. Russell C. ("Public") Servis (not to be confused with Russell H. Servis, of Seminary Avenue) was defeated, as an aspirant for one of the three seats. At its next meeting, the Board elected William L. Stout as president and Samuel K. Hunt as vice-president.

JELLY BEANS

With Easter approaching and candy none too plentiful, here's a story about the time that "Doc" Cutter bought five barrels of jelly beans--yes, five barrels! It was after World War I and candy had been somewhat scarce. However, a salesman assured Cutter that he could obtain them and jokingly, Cutter said "All right, how about five barrels of them?" The salesman departed. Shortly thereafter, "Doc" Cutter got a call from New York to verify the order. He was game, still thinking that the jelly beans would never arrive. But they did! Almost at once, he re-sold three barrels of them to a Trenton distributor, and the demand for the jelly beans in the other two barrels was so great that they soon were completely sold out.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Harry "Hap" Errickson wrote from Belgium where he is with the Third Army to report on the circumstances under which he was reading the "Hopewell News." He said: "I am sitting in a tent, on my bed-roll, sharing with seven others all the comforts the tent affords. We have a stove in the center, burning wood to keep or to try to keep the cold away. The dirt floor, dug in, is covered with straw. It is now evening and although we have an electric light from the storage battery of a nearby vehicle, I am using my flashlight. It is warmer than usual today, otherwise I would be hugging the stove and wouldn't need my light. It is possible that I might contact Norman Hoagland sometime; I know his outfit and Army but not Division. I can follow his Army in the 'Stars and Stripes'."

William H. Wyckoff has a rating now as SM 2/o and has been at Norfolk, Va. following his shore leave after extended service in Mediterranean waters. He advises that "I am still waiting with my same old ship for assignment to active duty. Where it is to be is unknown at present but we have a good idea where it might be this time."

T/Sgt. Wilbur Lowe (Ordnance) met up with Sgt. Morrill J. McAlinden, Jr. and also with Jack Lake in Belgium recently.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

S/Sgt. Dennis P. VanLiew is at home on furlough, following a corrective operation at Atlanta, Georgia. He and his brother, Harold VanLiew, A.O.M.2/c, who was home on week-end leave from Groton, Conn. were in church together on a recent Sunday.

Cpl. Colin A. McBurney now has a San Francisco APO, being with a Bomber Group and recently in Nebraska, after completing training in Texas.....Cpl. Edwin Sheppard, completing his furlough, has gone to Quantico, Va. for further duty with Ordnance, U.S. Marines.....Pvt. Paul A. Ashton, at Ellington Field, Texas, is doing night truck-driving at present. He has been able to spend a couple of week-ends in Houston, Texas, and is enthused about Texan hospitality and the comfortable beds in the USO there.

S/Sgt. Chas. R. ("Reg") Hurley (Coast Artillery Battery) continues on one of those "busy" Pacific Islands and regrets "that I am allowed to tell so little." He adds that he is still kept guessing about a long-awaited furlough and it may be winter before his chance comes.....Robert I. Hill, M.M.3/c, is having his troubles with a fungus growth that has broken out on his back and legs. He has stayed "top-side" more than usual because of it in the hope that the sores will get cured. Writing Jan. 28th he said: "In two days I received around three dozen letters....(censored) Ray Bard and I were there the days the boys went ashore and (censored) was tougher. We've been back there since and on the beach for a recreation party. Of course, there was only a small area where we could go but the natives came down to the beach. They sure seem glad to see the Americans back there in the (censored) again. They bring articles down to trade for clothes and soap and cigarettes. Many of the guys came back to the ship minus a shirt, shoes or (if they had them) swimming trunks, but with a handful of Jap coins and paper money or some of the new (censored) victory money which I guess is worth \$1 in our money."

Lieut. Charles E. Palmatier, Jr. is in Brittany, France with a Signal section. Military business has taken him to Paris on two occasions....Lieut. William G. Lowe is now at Selman Field, Louisiana, shifting from Midland, Texas, where he received his Army Air Corps commission. He is now taking a 20-weeks course in navigation, enlarging upon six weeks of navigation that he had earlier. He adds that "Here's hoping this is the last of schooling for me."

Cpl. Graham L. Benson, with a Marine Aircraft Wing in the Pacific, is out of the Philippines now, he wrote on Feb. 17th. "For once I didn't move West," he explained. He is on detached duty on another island that he went through on his way to the Philippines. He said he is living in a tin hut and "eating regularly, so I can't kick." As for money, he has little use for it, it seems, except to pay for laundry done by the natives, or to buy trinkets, although he had heard that buffalo stocks in town were good and might want to try one. Before leaving the Philippines he wrote: "We are having swell weather here, rain all the time, but am getting used to it.... Don't worry if the mail is late sometimes, as mail doesn't have A-1 priorities out here....They have towns hear here that some of the fellows visit but the natives are learning too fast how to put something over on them. I actually think the natives get the better of the Americans here. Sometime I will tell you all the places I have been. It will sound like the history of the Marine Corps in this war."

T/Sgt. John "Jack" Burton, who is in England working in Ordnance Supply and Maintenance with the Eighth Air Force, is confident that improved weather is going to bring the knockout blow to the Nazis within a couple of months. He has been in the Army three years and overseas 30 months, stationed at different air bases in England. He hears rumors of a furlough once in a while but since it hasn't developed, wants to say hello to all of his friends through the "News"....Pvt. Thomas Pessel is now at Oceanside, Calif. with the Marines, where a quarantine was clamped on those who rode in one car on the trip out, as one fellow developed mumps....H. E. Miller, Jr., C.C.M. husband of Florence Hart Miller, is back in California but remains hospitalized because of a fungus infection. His wife had remained in Venice, Calif. awaiting his return and luckily the hospital in which he is under treatment is only 90 miles away. He had been under hospital care for 13 weeks before being sent back.

Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless has been shifted from the Army Air Corps to the Infantry, which involved transfer from Abilene, Texas, to Camp Howze in the same State. He expects six weeks of intensive training, a brief furlough at home and then shipment overseas....John Cromwell has reported for active duty in the Naval Reserve, being sent to Sampson, N.Y. at the outset. A few days before he left town, he was wearing a slipper because of an infected toe.... S/Sgt. Homer Laming has been at home on furlough....

Pvt. Stanley Harris "Bucky" Ruyon is in a hospital in France with pneumonia. While in Germany with the First Army in January, he was awarded an Expert Combat Infantry Badge.....William C. Eelman, C.C.M., has received an honorable discharge, his last stay being at Camp Ellicott, R.I. The family has moved from Skillman to Hopewell, but his son, William Jr., 1/c, remains on sea duty with the U.S. Fleet.... Cpl. Steve Ruggieri, who is with an Engineers Battalion in France, wrote on Feb. 2: "Wish that I could tell you where I am and what goes on here. I can only say that I'm in the 7th Army. I'm sure that you can figure out where I am. People here speak mostly German."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

T/5 Thomas Faherty is in Germany with the Field Artillery of the Third Army, after being in Luxembourg. He says he knows he has been near his friend, Walter Karr, but has had no opportunity to meet him as yet. While in Luxembourg, he said he was in a pretty section "with steep hills and a small river that looks as if it would provide plenty of good fishing." He added that "Something unusual happened--I finally got to take a shower and see a movie.".....Cpl. Eden L. Snook is in France serving at a Prisoner of War Camp, and says "I am well, getting along fine and hope to be back soon.".....Pfc. Edward J. Tucker also is in France, working as a crane mechanic. "I can learn something every day about big cranes," he writes. "Without crane mechanics, the crane won't run; without cranes, the ships won't get unloaded and that's what keeps me busy."

Pfc. Raymond L. Otis is being transferred to Colgate University for a year's study that may lead to a Marine Corps commission. He passed exams at Camp LeJeune, N.C. making the new opportunity possible.....S/Sgt. Harry A. Devlin is "Somewhere in Belgium with the First Army on the northern salient of the former German bulge. "The people of Belgium are the finest I've met so far," he states, "because they do everything possible to make us comfortable. As we move along, they share their homes and barns for refuge from Winter's snow and cold. Up here on the front, I've seen a lot and I want to give the doughboy a 'pat on the back.' Harry is in the Field Artillery.

Pvt. Orville Holcombe, in China with the Engineers' Service of Supply, says "I could shoot ten Chinamen for a piece of sharp cheese and some hot spiced meat." He has been in China since Sept. 1943, and previously was a radio mechanic....Cpl. Harold Tobiasson, of Pennington, is in Alsace with an AAA group, and reported on Feb. 13 that "Things are pretty quiet here, waiting for things to explode and end this mess over here." He has travelled through Africa, Italy (including Anzio ("glad to get out in one piece") and thru France. He said he had met up with Bill Lanning and had a little chat.....Pvt. Bruce Vansant, at Fort Lewis, Wash. with an Engineers' construction battalion, says things are quite different since he left his office job. He has been on bivouac with his outfit, experiencing cold and rainy weather. His wife has been staying in Tacoma, Wash. so he has been able to phone to her occasionally.

BRIEF HAPPENINGS

The Borough Honor Roll has been missing of late, while new names are being inserted....A slight fire occurred in Jim Waldron's shop back of the bank but firemen didn't have far to go before getting into action....It took 16 weeks and four days to replace the fire hydrant at the all-important corner, Broad and Greenwood, after a car that figured in a crash on Oct. 29th wrecked the one standing there....The Post Office lobby has so many "Man Wanted" criminal photos on the bulletin board that it resembles a rogues' gallery....The Dr. Stults' have a baby boy, Amos, Jr., this being their second child....The Edward Ashtons, of Sominary Avenue, have learned of the death of a grandson, Edward, of Somerville, who had been missing in action in Italy since last September, shortly after he won a citation for bravery in routing out Nazi snipers....

Samuel Little, a familiar figure around town, died during the past week after being taken to a Trenton hospital....Edgar VanDyke, of the Hopewell-Ringoes road, was buried Friday. He was 60 and is survived by both of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John VanDyke, who are in their 90's....It is reported that Louis Gerhard, proprietor of Eagle Bakery and Woart's Market, will take over the news agency business formerly conducted by the Braunworth's and more recently by Robert Fuss and wife, who came here from Indiana where they have decided to return.....Mrs. John Ginter is in Texas for a few weeks, returning there with Chaplain Ginter, of the AAF who made a fast trip here after she became ill.....Miss Hope Laning was married Feb. 20 to Robert William Davis, of Wichita, Kansas, at the home of the Leigh Hurleys where her mother, Mrs. Lou Etta Laning has an apartment. He is in the Navy and stationed at Newport, R.I. while Hope has been graduated recently from Orange (N.J.) Memorial Hospital....Mr. and Mrs. Russell Drake have returned after a stay in Florida....John Willis won a gallon of hair shampoo as a prize at a recent P.T.A. card party....Union services have been planned during the Lenten season and Holy Week, with a sunrise service in the Presbyterian Church on Easter Sunday...Some expert shuffleboard players are being developed through the twice-a-month meetings of the Men's Group of Calvary Baptist Church....Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Conover observed their 58th wedding anniversary yesterday, March 5th....Pat Laird sent this joke to a weekly paper recently and received a dollar for it: Man (telephoning): "May I please speak to the lion at the zoo?" Operator: "Sorry, sir. The lion is busy."

IN CLOSING

There you have it--the old-home-town revealed before you--if you've used a little imagination with your reading. Like every issue, the "News" brings a mixture of things, hoping each reader will find a number of things that hit the spot. It's been a pleasure to weave it together, because the enthusiastic letters that continue to come this way indicate that the demand for it is as strong as ever.

Best of luck to you.

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

ABOUT OUR SPONSORS

"This is a great state of affairs," the Editor remarked, as he looked over a long list of Hopewell folk whose names have gone unmentioned as yet as sponsors of the "Hopewell News." Then he added: "Something will have to be done about it." And that is why this supplement appears with this issue.

Up to this time, each issue of the "News" has listed a few of those who have said: "Keep it going--and let me help pay the cost." But the contributions have continued to come in, and the listing hasn't kept pace with the flow of dollars. Therefore, the Editor is resorting to this method of informing those in the Armed Forces about those who are having a part in underwriting the cost of this little publication. Hereafter, every effort will be made to mention names as contributions are received.

This isn't just a list of names, remember. It's an Honor Roll of those --heretofore unmentioned (repeated in some instances, however, because of a second or third contribution) who are saying: "Let me help, so the fellows in the service will know that they can continue to count upon us." Read down the list that follows with that thought in mind, and see if it isn't a heart-warming experience.

Mrs. Dezzie Casoy
Mrs. James Pittman
Mrs. E. F. Lamson
Mrs. Adrian Smith
Mr. Edgar Stout (formerly of Harbourton, now in Florida)
Mrs. Thomas F. Laird
Mrs. Goodwin Webster (Camden)
Mrs. Chester Woods (of Raton, New Mexico)
Mrs. Rose Warman
Mrs. Spencer Moore
Mrs. Dennis Van Liew
Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Hayes (East Falls, Phila., Pa.)
Mr. Edgar Copnor
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Van Liew
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Drake
Mrs. Marie Titus (New York City)
Mrs. Carolyn Vannoy
Mr. Warren Hart
Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Sr. (Ponnington)
Mrs. O. S. Burroughs
Mr. and Mrs. J. Russell Riley
Miss Ida Stafoni
Miss Ella Hullfish
Mrs. Parvin R. Stryker
Mrs. John Stout
Mrs. Harold Johnson
Mrs. Nelson W. Holcombe
Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Johnson (Harbourton)
Mr. and Mrs. Fred I. Sutphen
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoagland
Mrs. Viola Van Lieu
Mr. John W. Burd
Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Vaughn
Mrs. John H. Winant (Skillman)
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ewing
Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Pierson, Sr.
Miss Jetta Bregenzer
Mrs. B. Carl Hillman
Mrs. Hart Cromwell
Mr. and Mrs. Claude W. Emmons
Miss Wilma Lowe
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williamson
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wilson
Mrs. Joseph Cataldo
Mrs. Edward Jones
Mrs. Charles Palmatier
Mrs. Samuel Little
Mrs. Horman C. Niehaus (Kingston)
Mr. and Mrs. George McCandless
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burton

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Two servicemen were comparing their travel experiences when one said:
"London is certainly the foggiest place in the world."

"Oh, no," the other protested, "I've been in a much foggier place."

"Where was that?"

"It was so foggy, I don't even know where I was!"

Auto owner, after the crash: "Well, all I can say is, I'm sorry."

Truck driver: "Oh, is that all you can say?"

Owner: "Why, yes."

Truck driver: "Well, then listen to me."

A remarkably honest Chicago doctor sent in a certificate of death the other day with his name signed in the space reserved for "Cause of death."

Admiral Sir Andrew Cunninham was aboard his flagship in a Mediterranean port when a cruiser made a sloppy job of tying up to her berth. The cruiser's captain, dreading the message he knew would come from his commandor-in-chief, was relieved, if puzzled, when it was delivered. It consisted of one word, "Good." Fifteen minutes later, the captain was interrupted...with a supplement reading, "To previous message please add the word 'God.'"

A man obtained a job in Washington but found it difficult to acquire the language of the New Deal readily. While dictating a letter to his stenographer, he asked: "Do you 'retire a loan?'"

Her reply was: "No, I sleep with Mama!"

Customer: "Have you a book entitled, 'Man, the Master of the Home?'"

Clerk: "The fiction department is on the other side, sir."

Man: "Ho and his wife both talk in their sloop."

Friend: "That must be interesting."

Man: "Yes. He's a golfer, and she likes to attend auction sales. The other night he yelled 'Fore!' and she yelled 'Four twenty-five!'"

Sergeant: "Why do they call them sweater girls?"

Corporal: "That's something I've been wanting to unravel for a long time."

Professor: "You don't know the first thing about syntax."

Student: "Lord, don't tell me they're taxing that."

A spinster living in a Chicago suburb was shocked at the language used by two men repairing telegraph wires close to her house. She wrote to the company about it, and the foreman was asked to report. This he did in the following manner:

"Ho and Bill Fairweather were on this job. I was up the telegraph pole, and accidentally let some hot lead fall on Bill. It went down his neck. Then he said: "You really must be more careful, Harry."

Doctor: "Ever have any trouble with dyspepsia?"

Patient: "Only once, sir. I tried to spell it."

Wife: "My husband has no bad habits whatsoever. He never drinks and he spends all his evenings at home."

Visitor: "Does he smoke?"

Wife: "Only in moderation. He likes a good cigar after he has had a good dinner. But I don't suppose he smokes two cigars a month."

Fan: (Arriving late)--"What's the score?"

Second Fan:--"Nothing to nothing."

Fan:--"Good game?"

Second Fan:--"Don't know. It hasn't started yet."

Wife: "Darling, bad news. The doctor says he's going to remove my gallstones, my appendix, my tonsils, my--"

Husband: "Hold on. That's enough out of you!"

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Hopewell News

A Chatty Newspaper Issued Now and Then
About Your Town, Your Friends and You
--Dean H. Ashton, Editor--

VOL. III, No. 6

Hopewell, N.J., March 27, 1945

36th Issue

ANOTHER GOLD STAR

The Marines seized Iwo Jima, Pacific island well on the road to Tokyo, but paid a heavy price for it--and the price included the life of Pvt. Franklin V. D. Hill, of West Prospect Street. A telegram was delivered to his folks last Friday afternoon (March 23rd) telling the sad news. The message came from Lt. General A.A. Vandergrift, commandant of the U.S. Marines, stating that Franklin had met his death on Feb. 19th--which was "D-Day" on Iwo Jima.

Franklin's death places the first Gold Star on the Honor Roll of Calvary Baptist Church, and another upon the Borough Honor Roll. He is the fifth member of the Armed Forces from Hopewell and vicinity whose life has been sacrificed to achieve victory. Others are: Irvin VanNeste, killed in a tank battle in Tunisia, North Africa; Frank Ege, who went down in the Mediterranean when a troop ship carrying his Army Air Force photography unit was torpedoed; Arthur P. Hixon, who met his death in Belgium while serving with a tank battalion; and Stephen Myers, killed in Luxembourg while serving with an Armored Field Artillery Battalion.

Actually, Myers and Franklin Hill were slain within four days of each other. However, they were on widely separated battle fronts and the news about Hill was delayed because of the heavy death toll when Iwo Jima was invaded.

If Hill had lived three weeks longer, he would have been 25 years old. He was married, his wife being the former Ethel Leeker, who is living with her father on the VanLieu's Corner Road. They have a four-year-old daughter, Barbara Ann. Franklin had worked at H. A. Smith's. Entering the service about April 1 of last year, he went into the Marine Corps, training at Parris Island and then being sent to California, leaving this country early in August. He was a replacement in the Fourth Division of the Marines, an outfit that had won citations for bravery under fire. He figured in at least one other island invasion, it is known. The last letter from him was dated Jan. 15th, and as the time lengthened, his relatives became increasingly fearful. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Hill; the father recuperating slowly after a serious illness that included a stay in the hospital.

"HOKEY" HELD BY NAZIS

The outlook in respect to Pvt. Russell W. "Hokey" Helcombe, Jr. has taken a much brighter turn. He is now reported to be a Prisoner of War in Germany. Word to that effect was received by his parents on Feb. 16th, about 10 weeks after that fateful telegram that simply stated that he was "missing." He had been in France near the Swiss border, going to the front almost immediately after moving overseas with an infantry outfit. Indications are that the confusion resulting from the German bulge may have led to "Hokey's" capture. His folks are hopeful that he will be permitted to send a letter that will arrive in the near future.

BOROUGH HONOR ROLL EXPANDS

The Borough Honor Roll, displayed adjoining the Bank, has been enlarged--in fact it has sprouted wings. To accommodate all the names, two side panels have been added and the entire board re-painted. Just at present, all the names are missing while the list is being brought up to date. The Service Flag, that flew above it, vanished long since, but it is hoped that it will soon be restored to its proper place.

HAROLD TEMPLE ADVANCES

Out there in the South Pacific area, Lieut. Harold Temple, of the Army Air Force, has won a promotion. He is now a First Lieutenant. He also ranks as first pilot, instead of co-pilot, on planes in the Troop Carrier Squadron to which he is assigned. Details as to his air operations are necessarily clothed in secrecy, but it is understood that his flights radiate in all directions from New Guinea.

WRITES FROM FOX-HOLE ON IWO JIMA

Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr. went into Iwo Jima with the Marines and gave a brief report in a V-mail letter written in a fox-hole. The news that he was doing all right on March 6th, when he wrote, also brought with it a tale that he thought might be one for the folks back home to "hash over." He declares that he was writing from a steam-heated foxhole! His letter states:

"Right now I'm in a foxhole (very deep one, of course) writing this amid the sounds of Iwo Jima slam-banging around me....Our foxholes are steam-heated, believe that or not. We have dug in over some sulphur pits and the heat from the pits keeps us warm and how. Almost everywhere in this vicinity you can see steam coming from the boys' foxholes....I read in the "Hopewell News" about Bob Hill and his promotion. I went to Saipan on the same ship he is on. 'Red' (Ray) Burd is also with him. Well I had better get back to 'gook' hunting (Japs to you--Gooks to us) before they find me first."

DOING SOME TRAVELING

William H. Wyckoff, SM 2/c, who came home recently after many months on a mine-sweeper in the Mediterranean, is understood to be out on the Pacific now. He is aboard the same ship....Cpl. Colin A. McBurney also has moved out to the Pacific area with a Bombing Group of the Army Air Force. He had trained in Nebraska and in Texas....George O. Phillips, S.F.1/c has been at sea aboard a newly-commissioned ship, designated as an AKA....Pvt. James H. Hall, it is learned, is now in France after going across England with his Infantry Regiment....Tec/5 Paul C. Stryker may be on the Atlantic now, his Field Artillery Group having headed to a Port of Embarkation recently.

BILL CONOVER IN HOSPITAL

Pvt. William S. Conover, (Infantry) who went overseas recently after a long tour of duty in Panama Canal Zone, followed by AAA and Infantry training in Georgia and Texas, has been having the painful experience of suffering frostbite in both feet. His Mother has been informed officially that his condition is satisfactory now. He is under care in a hospital in England.

HOLD GET-TOGETHERS

Pfc. Herbert VanDyke, who was with a Signal Corps outfit overseas, is now in a Military Police Company in Italy. Recently, a friend sent him the address of Ed Solan, of the Hopewell Valley Golf Club, where Herb used to be an instructor. Herb got in contact with Ed and they spent a day together. They have had subsequent meetings as well. Herb was inducted in Florida where he had taken a golf pro job.

Another meeting of Hopewell residents also is reported. Pfc. George Knudsen, who is in Germany, states that one day someone from another outfit (Knudsen is with an Engineers Battalion) called out: "Any you guys from Jersey?" Knudsen answered up and was then asked "Where from, bud?" Let Knudsen finish the story: "I threw out my chest and said 'Hopewell.' He says, 'Why, I come from there too.' 'What street do you live on?' I asked and he said, 'Columbia Ave.' That got me real anxious. Then I learned that it was none other than Elmer Sutphen. Never met him in Hopewell but came over here to bump into him. Conclusion--small world, huh."

WHAT A WASHBOARD!

Erwin W. Benson, with the Air-Borne Artillery in France, thinks he has qualified as a wash-woman. Lacking laundry facilities, he and a companion made use of their ingenuity as paratroopers, and built their own washboard. They used some discarded broom handles, Erwin reports, and adds that "it works pretty well but what wouldn't I give for a washing machine." He also wanted advice on how to get rid of that so-called "tattle-tale" gray. He had a short visit to Brussels, Belgium, and says it was more to his liking, because the people speak English and living conditions are better. On the other hand, he heard V-bombs go over and "they didn't sound so good."

HEARS JERRIES EXPLAIN

Pvt. John Garrett Conover, who went into Germany soon after crossing France and being assigned as an Infantry replacement, tells what the Jerries have to say concerning their continuation of the fight, despite the terrific drubbing they are taking. He says the Nazis reply that they would "rather have a gun to face than one in the back." While in a foxhole, Garrett's companion there was wounded, he reveals. Returning to a rest area, Garrett said he was staying in a French chateau but adds that while it once was a swell place, "they still pile the manure in the front yard." However, he managed to get a bath, his first real one since going overseas, and that was quite an event for him.

"Would you like to see a model home?"

"Glad to. What time does she quit work?"

FIRST-HAND DETAILS

Through a returned sailor whose home is in Bristol, Pa., Mrs. Ina Conover Hill has obtained a first-hand report about some of the experiences of her husband, Robert I. Hill, M.M.3/c. Bob is aboard a ship that carries invasion troops, and now is entitled to wear a silver star on his campaign bar, having been in five major engagements. The most recent involved the Iwo Jima action, while he also was at Luzon and Saipan, as well as Guam, and has been to New Guinea and Pearl Harbor.

The Bristol sailor had returned because of a new assignment. He revealed that Jap planes had attacked their ship but the ship's gunners shot three of them down, while the fourth attempted a suicide dive at the ship but plunged in the ocean. He also reported that Bob's fungus infection had been quite severe but was clearing up nicely. When the sailor reached home, his Mother greeted him at the door and then kneeled over, although she had been notified by wire in advance that he was coming. Then twice the same evening, she "passed out" through the sheer excitement of having her son home again.

WHEN THE PLANES GO OVER

Only an eye-witness "can possibly realize or picture what a spectacle it is" when our huge fleets of bombers and fighters pass overhead enroute to Germany, according to Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland, with a Field Artillery Battery in Germany. He says: "The weather has been just grand for the past two weeks (writing on Feb.23)--warm and clear, with practically cloudless skies. Speaking of the weather brings to mind the activity of the Air Corps which the clear skies has prompted. They sure are putting on a show and the Hoinics have really been taking it on the chin. At home, you read no doubt about the 1,000 and 2,000-plane raids and though it sounds big, you could never realize just how big they really are. To see the entire heavens black with planes from horizon to horizon and hear the drone of their motors that fairly saturates the atmosphere is a sight that would stir and thrill the coldest of hearts."

TELLS OF AIR MISSIONS

And now let's hear from Lt. Kenneth R. Burroughs, Bombardier with many flights from England over enemy territory to his credit. He seeks to minimize his part in the aerial offensive. Returning from one recent mission, he says he occupied his time reading a pocket-size book of stories. He continues: "That was over friendly territory for while in Germany, I am as alert as possible. Mentioning territory, I have flown over Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, France, Czechoslovakia and have seen the Swiss Alps as well as flying over most of Germany. If there were not the dangers involved, it would be a matter of a number of sight-seeing tours. In fact, on many of our long missions we term the flight plan a 'Cook's Tour of Germany.' That is said with a note of bitterness in the voice!

"I think I have become immune to the 'briefing fever.' I used to feel a little nervous when I saw a particularly rough target pin-pointed on the maps. It doesn't seem to bother me any more to any great extent. The most tense part of a mission is when one turns on the bomb run. Although there is flak now and then on our routes, the flak over the target is usually the most intense. Before a person is actually in the target flak, he fears the unknown. As soon as the plane turns off the target, there is great relief. No one can imagine the sensation of going over a target or through a heavy flak barrage. 'Thrilling' is a mild term."

SCOUT DRIVE IN PROGRESS

Funds are being raised in the Borough to enable the Boy Scout troop to obtain their own headquarters. A goal of \$500 has been set and volunteers are on the job. A thermometer display has been placed on the front of the Post Office to indicate the progress of the campaign. The Troop Committee, headed by Louis Hoamor, is hoping the thermometer will "run quite a temperature" so the \$500 goal is reached.

The drive has been given an excellent start through the generosity of employees of H.A. Smith Company, who raised \$100. Adequate quarters will permit the Troop to develop a more extensive program.

CENSUS SUGGESTION

Just when it seemed as if the discussion of the "widows and old-maid census" had come to an end, a brand new idea was presented to the Editor of the "Hopewell News." This was the suggestion: "Why not take a census of double-chins in Hopewell?" There you have it. But since the Editor didn't take the other census, he isn't going to get tangled up in any "double-chin census" either. But if someone does go to work on the problem and comes through with figures that are guaranteed to be reliable, the tabulation would be reported in due course.

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

While the "Hopewell News" may be a one-man proposition on the editorial side, it's quite otherwise, as you may know, on the financial side. Contributions of persons who want to have a part in sending the news to those in the Armed Forces have taken care of the expense for a year and a half or more. Those aiding since the last report was given are: Mrs. Warner Fite, Mrs. Edgar Temple, Mrs. Russell Lanning, Mrs. Charles Wyckoff, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hart, Mrs. Adelia Fowler, (R.D.#2, Princeton), Miss Margaret Hullfish and Mrs. Thomas Flanagan (Marshall's Corner).

DR. PIERSON IMPROVES

After spending several days in the hospital because of a broken shoulder blade, Dr. Theo. A. Pierson is recuperating at his home. The injury occurred during the night recently, when the doctor, who is troubled with asthma, arose and started downstairs. He misstepped, with one step to go, and fell. He minimized the mishap and returned to bed but by morning, the seriousness of the accident was realized. In addition to the shoulder injury, he had out the back of his head. He was removed to Mercer Hospital at once.

THEY COLLECT

Mrs. Rosetta Waldron, of Columbia Avenue, received a U.S. Treasurer's check the other day and took it to the Post Office to cash it. Since the check was made out in her husband's name also, she was told that he would have to endorse it also. So later in the day Mrs. Waldron and her husband, William, called. They signed and then Postmaster McAlinden cashed the check. It was for two cents! The Waldrons were much amused when they received the two pennies and decided the best thing to do would be to divide it equally.

TIME TO SOW

There's a right time and a wrong time to sow seed, according to Garrett Conover, Sr. So earlier this month, he decided it would never do to miss the right time to get 16 acres of clover sown on the farm that his son, Marvin, now runs. Marvin, however, was laid up at the time because of a cold that settled in a muscle of his hip and kept him in bed for a few days. Marvin's son, Delbert, was willing to tackle the job but Garrett, Sr. told him that "You and I can take care of this."

So, they took the wheelbarrow, the sower and the clover and went to work--Garrett, Sr. at 86 years of age, but still liking to "get a hand in." He supervised and Delbert trundled the wheelbarrow back and forth. They didn't stop with one field but kept at it until they had sown clover in three fields--sixteen acres. Afterward, Garrett, Sr. said: "I just helped a little."

SHORTAGE OF FIREMEN

Quite a fire occurred on March 13th when flames raced across fields south and west of the Borough, carrying almost to the Vansant farm. The fire siren sounded but few firemen seemed to be available. Sam Copner, who was at home resting under doctor's orders, drove the fire truck. Going in Lawyer's lane, the truck stuck in the mud. Meanwhile, the flames were racing through Indian grass. School children of the Seventh Grade, outdoors for physical education, ran to the scene. With their help, the truck was shoved out of the mud. By that time, school was over and others came, older boys taking tanks, brooms and cedar branches to beat out the flames.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT SCHOOL

They've had some special events at the Elementary School lately. There was a hat show, with prizes offered for the largest, smallest, most modernistic, etc., and even the teachers and the new principal, Earl B. Whitcraft, participated. In fact, Mr. Whitcraft promoted the show. The pupils paraded on the platform with their hats and the winners were determined by applause. Sophia Bonson produced the biggest hat, having used square boxes, stacked one on top of the other. The smallest was worn by Jack Ferrante, being a tiny fragment of paper. Other special typos included "fruit" hats, "vegetable" hats, aviation hats, the funniest and the prettiest.

Then there was an evening presentation of "G.I. Junior," an original play written by Emily Carballal. It was cleverly worked out, with "G.I.'s," Military Police and Canton Celebrities included. The play was so good, in fact, that it has been staged for four different groups, and Emily's Grandmother thought enough of it to come from Brooklyn on a special trip to be in the audience.

The school is also turning out a creditable school paper called "Grammar Chatter.".....And here's one for the book. Mr. Whitcraft, to spread out the flow of students to the lunch room one day, told a class: "All who have blue eyes can now go to the lunchroom." After a pause, he then said: "All who have crew hair-cuts can now go," and two boys qualified on that score. That left about 10 in the room, and they felt they were getting badly left. Then he said: "All those that I love can now go." Nobody stirred! Mr. Whitcraft laughed, then he dismissed them also.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Easter services are expected to attract record attendances in the churches. In Calvary Baptist Church, baptisms will contribute to the impressiveness of the occasion, marked by special choir music and a Resurrection sermon by the pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray.....Union services have been in progress during the Lenten season, and an Easter sunrise service will be held in the Presbyterian Church....The Baptist parsonage was insulated recently for the further comfort of the pastor, his wife and baby daughter, Mary Elizabeth.....A recent church Bulletin (distributed each Sunday) bore a picture on the cover that strongly resembled Harry McEnderless.....The Gray's baby was dedicated in a special ceremony two weeks ago.....Two trees on the S. Greenwood Ave. side of the parsonage were cut down recently....A Parent-Teacher night is being planned for May 1 by the Church School Board of Calvary Baptist Church.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard, Marine veteran of the Tinian, Saipan and other Pacific campaigns, is now working at the Marine Repair Depot, Quantico, Va. He expects to go to the Machinist School soon. After all that he has been through, he can well say: "Things are pretty nice here, good barracks, chow will pass and plenty of liberty. I feel I am lucky--I can even get cigarettes." (Scarce in the States).

Lieut. Charles E. Palmatier, Jr. has moved Northward in France with his Signal Section and is now in the Burgundy District near the Swiss border. He has been in the Army four and a half years. He says he believes he is not very far from Cpl. Ira Allen, who is with a Military Police Company in France, and hopes to get in contact with him. He adds that "This might furnish me with the first chance I've had in all my travels to meet someone from the home town."

Harry "Dap" Erickson has moved up a grade and now is a Pfc. He was last reported in Belgium with the Third Army.....John "Jack" Wyckoff, Jr., S2/c, was at home recently after training at Bainbridge, Md. and expected a new assignment.....Pvt. Paul A. Ashton, at Ellington Field, Texas, with the AAF, has been driving a gasoline truck-trailer and responding to orders to "fill 'er up" when planes arrive on the field. He has had a chance to taxi Advanced Trainers across the field and familiarize himself with the interior of all types of planes.

Frank I. Maple, S2/o, is working in the Pacific war zone with a Navy Construction Battalion....Pvt. Bruce Vansant made a transcontinental trip to visit home, coming from Fort Lewis, Wash. to accompany his wife here, as he was anticipating orders taking his Engineers' construction battalion out of the country....Edward Esche, on an island in the Pacific, has taken an islander boy "under his wing" so the lad will receive much-needed medical treatment.

Hartwell Vannoy sent a box from Germany and after six weeks' travel it arrived in Hopewell. It contained a German General's cap, a pair of wooden shoes that doubtless came from Belgium where he was for some time, and a couple of grenades. He also has added to his collection of coins.....Cpl. John W. Flagg has been on the move with his Fighter Squadron. He reports that he had an issue of the "Hopewell News" delivered to him "in the middle of the Pacific". Their ship, he added, was about a mile from the spot where "Rog" Hurley has been (in the Philippines), but Jack added that "I couldn't get off the ship to see him."

It's now Sgt. Frank P. Jones, advanced from Corporal since being awarded an Air Medal. He is now in India, but previously was in China. He is assigned to an Air Cargo Resupply Squadron. As he explains it, "Am still dropping things to the boys from above, and make frequent trips to 'down where the flying fishes play.'" He says his stay in China was special duty, adding that he "enjoyed my visit very much, except, of course, for the time spent in fox-holes." He minimized the importance of his Air Medal, saying "Don't get the idea it was for anything special, simply for a number of air combat hours." He has sent a photo showing him riding in a Chinese rickshaw being drawn by a native.

The eighth of the Boakowski family is now in service, being Stanley, the youngest. He enlisted in the Navy and hopes to work out as a radio technician, having passed a qualifying test. He has five brothers overseas and two serving in this country.....Sheldon W. Embley, S2/o, is assigned to a Naval depot at Dover, N.J., the earlier report that he was assigned to sea duty being in error....Richard Embley, better known as "Pooch," was at home recently and wearing a beard. He grew it while spending over five months in the Mediterranean area. He and Sheldon were at home at the same time, it being the first in eight months that they had been together.

Pfc. William Johnson, injured about the chest while in Belgium, has been in a Replacement Center, and had two opportunities to visit Paris. He says the thing that impressed him most was Napoleon's Tomb.....Pfc. William Lanning, who knows how to make drum-sticks talk, is stationed in France with an Evacuation Hospital....Pfc. Joe Murodda writes from Germany on March 6th to say that "Things have been moving fast lately. He says that his Infantry outfit took a town with a brewery intact not long ago, so they've been 'rolling out the barrel.'" He comments that "All we need is a juke box and a shuffleboard and we can call the joint Joe's Bar or something of that nature. He says that the ruins of the cities and towns is most impressive, although some homes have not been battered too severely, and American troops occupy them. He said he had that good fortune and as he was writing, a pot of good old American coffee was brewing on the stove close by.

Pvt. John Lutz has been at home, first on furlough and then on a hurried visit, expecting to go out with his Armored Field Artillery outfit....T/Sgt. Wilbur Lowe, states that he has been very busy, especially while his Mobile Repair Unit, of an Ordnance Company, was at Liège, Belgium serving both the First and Third Armies near Aachen, some of the German Bulge....Pvt. Orville Wyckoff, shifted to an Armored Battalion, went through France and into Luxembourg.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Sgt. Clarence Runyon, Jr., who spent nearly three years in Africa with the Air Transport Command, is now at New Castle, Delaware, and his wife has an apartment nearby.....Pvt. John Walter Knorr, twice hospitalized overseas, has been taken out of combat service and assigned to Transportation.....Herbert E. Wilson, S2/c (Rdm) has been at sea on a ship undergoing its shake-down cruise. He says he cannot understand why they call it a cruise as they have been too busy to "enjoy the scenery." He added that the ocean had been very smooth and the weather hot but that "I can't tell you where I am!"

BRIEF ITEMS AROUND TOWN.

It must be Spring, for George Diles was seen walking in town carrying his fishing pole. But it's going to be tougher to get gardens ploughed, with Orville Carkhuff, Jr. in the Army taking training at Camp Wheeler, Ga....A paperhanging business and store is being opened up where the "5 & 10" used to be, near the Rorer Hardware store. The proprietor is Ralph Cray, Jr. whose Father formerly lived in Hopewell and was a paperhanger.....Spencer Moore is going to close his grocery store on Mondays, starting April 2, partly because of the meat shortage and also so he and his wife can get a little rest.....Ewing's Corner Store closes all day Thursday, as the shortages or reduced quotas on cigarettes, ice cream, etc. are felt.

Pennington folk have started a news-letter to send to their service men, and it's a whopper in size, containing items about almost every organization in town. What's that, did somebody say that Pennington is just about that far behind Hopewell, this being the 36th issue of "Hopewell News" in its 26-months' history.

One of the largest funerals ever held in Hopewell was a tribute to James Morrell, of Princeton Avenue, a former employee of Blackwell's Garage. He had been ailing for a number of months.....That's quite an ancient clock in the Post Office and when the minute hand climbs to 12, it drops down four or five minutes.....Elmer Ewing observed his 89th birthday a few days ago.....Alvah Voorhees is home after a long hospital stay, the aftermath of a gunning mishap.

A top-notch band concert was given in the Elementary School by the Princeton High School band recently. Hopewell takes special pride in it, not only because several Hopewell pupils are included, but because it is directed by Mr. Andrew Frech, who recently moved to West Prospect Street.....The Scott Dansberry, Jr.'s have a baby daughter, named Bettilyn, their second child.....Joe Pierson, of the bank staff who ran unsuccessfully for Assembly last Fall, has been mentioned for possible appointment as Deputy County Clerk, a post being relinquished by Bill Howe, of Pennington, who is going to devote his time to the Howe Nurseries business.

The "Hopewell Herald" made quite a mystery of an alleged stoning of a home by boys, but there really is no mystery about it. The incident involved the "Herald" office property, but proof was not available when a boy was given a hearing after he had been brought in on suspicion.....Walter Housel has six deer heads to mount. He is quite a taxidermist and the antlers are the fruits of last Fall's hunting by local sportsmen.....Gus Vandermark, Jr. recently decided to give up pigeon-raising and devote his attention to his hounds and terriers. Then he wavered, as he had some birds that had made long flights and he was attached to them. So he concluded he would keep a "few"--actually 30 was what he meant by a few. However, a buyer came along subsequently and in a moment of weakness, he sold out.....Peter Williamson, son of the Kenneth Williamsons, was told of a Washington's Birthday party and then he asked: "Is George going to be there?" Informed that he had been dead for quite a while, the youngster next asked: "Then why are they going to give him a party if he can't be there?"

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

When Jones' little girl was born
It set their hearts a-flutter;
They called her Oleomargarine
For they hadn't any but her.

He: "My treasure,"
She: "My treasury,"

IN CLOSING

There you have it--the roundup of the news served up for your enjoyment--I hope. If it succeeds in giving you the feeling of being "around town" and hearing a bit of the things that are taking place, the "News" will have served its chief purpose. Next issue should appear and be starting on its way to you on April 17th.

Best of luck to you.

Sincerely,

97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor

HOPEWELL NEWS

A CHATTY NEWSPAPER ISSUED NOW AND THEN
ABOUT YOUR TOWN, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU

--Dean R. Ashton, Editor--

VOL. III, No. 6

Hopewell, N.J., April 17, 1945

37th Issue

STUNNING NEWS

When a President dies, it seems as if a great hush falls over almost every phase of our national life. Individuals, forgetting politics, realize that their leader has passed away and inevitably feel a deep sense of personal loss.

So it was in the sudden death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. For the best part of three days, activities throughout the nation were cancelled or postponed. And so it was in Hopewell. When the radio brought the word, groups gathered here and there about town, expressing sorrow and asking what significant changes would follow. On the following morning, pupils of the Elementary School participated in a memorial service, with classes dismissed at noon. Flags were placed at half-mast and places of business arranged to close Saturday, from 4 to 6, marking the time of the funeral service for the President at Washington. At 4 o'clock, the town's church bells tolled sadly, and residents generally observed a moment of silence.

Many had expected that the funeral train carrying President Roosevelt's body from Washington to Hyde Park, N.Y. would pass through Hopewell, but instead it went through Trenton and Princeton Junction, over the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks.

While President Roosevelt had planned to help in shaping a program for lasting world peace, his death at the height of his career may place even greater emphasis upon the need to plan the future wisely, than if he had lived to give further efforts along that line. Then, too, his death again turned many people to God in prayer as always in an hour of crisis, and their thoughts to the deeper things of life.

Truly, the death of President Roosevelt was a significant event.

BIG NEWS AWAITED

Civilians are notoriously bad-guessers about war developments, but right now the folks back home are more than certain that VE Day news may come at any moment. In fact, many believed that a news blackout hiding the joining of the American and Russian Armies was being held back until after President Roosevelt's funeral.

While it may be a little longer before the collapse of Germany comes, there is supreme confidence that the end is not far distant. What a day of rejoicing that will be--and a day of renewed vows to triumph over Japan just as quickly as the job can be done.

VANDEWATER HAS A CLOSE CALL

When Leonard W. Vandewater went into the Army, he warned his folks that they needn't expect him to win promotions, as he wasn't looking for any responsibilities. Now comes the word, however, that he has moved up from Private to Sergeant in one jump! And a Nazi sniper, whose aim fortunately was a trifle bad, sent a bullet that grazed the back of Leonard's neck. As to his whereabouts, the last word was that he had crossed the Moselle River with the Third Army.

Soon after crossing France, Leonard was in the front lines, doing combat duty. The sniper's shot occurred when Leonard was out in the open, having been made first scout in his squad on the second day in combat. He says he thinks he "outran" the bullets that came his direction. On the fourth day, he became squad leader of the second squad, and since squad leaders are entitled to a Sergeant's rating, the next thing he knew he was Sergeant Vandewater.

But grim as war is, Leonard finds there is a lighter side, too. He wrote as follows: "Every time we stop at a village we take over a couple of houses to sleep in. There are always some cows and chickens around, so I always manage to have fresh milk and eggs. It is fun to see some of the city boys try to milk a cow."

WELL STOCKED

In case you're wondering whether the "Hopewell News" will be doing a vanishing act when things in Europe have reached a climax, here's a clue about future plans. Since our last issue, we've stocked up with more than 20,000 sheets of paper! That's enough to take care of the issues, appearing every third week, for the balance of 1945, unless the tendency to grow and grow gets out of hand.

So the "News" will stay with you. Perhaps the German Army isn't going to last as long as the "duration," but the "News" intends to be with you for a while longer.

VISITS JAPAN

It hasn't been so many weeks since Cpl. Colin A. McBurney was in Hopewell on furlough but it is learned that he already has been on two air raids to Japan. He is with a Bomb Squadron based in the Mariana Islands. As he comments, "The Air Corps has been keeping us pretty busy out here. I've been on two raids to Japan so far, but expect to be on plenty more in the very near future." He adds that even in the short while he has been on those Mariana Islands, he has seen a lot of big changes take place.

BRINGING 'EM DOWN

Pfc. Elmer Sutphen, writing from Germany, discloses that his anti-aircraft gun battalion brought down 35 Nazi planes on the first two nights of the German breakthrough of last December. Most of the planes were JU-52's. But it's a different story these days, for Elmer himself is in Germany and his Gun Battalion has 80 planes credited as having been knocked out of the skies.

PAUL STRYKER IN ITALY

Cpl. Paul C. Stryker, who is on leave from the Elementary School faculty, is now "Somewhere in Northern Italy." He is with a Field Artillery Battery, and the outfit passed through Naples on its way up. Italy is quite a change for him, as just a year ago he was in California, where he trained at Camp Roberts and also was hospitalized for a jaw operation. Writing on April 1st (Easter) he said:

"This seems like a strange place indeed to be spending Easter Sunday, which reminds me that I was at the Hollywood Easter dawn services exactly one year ago. We had Easter dawn services over here in Italy this morning but a shift on guard prevented me from attending." Referring to Naples, he commented: "What we saw made us realize that there probably wouldn't be much of a gay Easter there. Those people are really poor. From 6 to 60, they waited outside our mess hall to beg for whatever scraps we had left on our mess kits. Let's hope that next Easter will bring brighter times."

TRAGIC DEATH

The death of Rose Marie Rovello, of the Frank Rovello family on the Woodville Road, has been a shock to the entire community. The ten-year-old girl, who had attended Fifth Grade, was fatally burned when stove polish caught fire after being placed on a stove to melt. Rose Marie attempted to carry it outdoors but the flames set fire to her clothing and she died the following day in a Trenton hospital.

Pupils from her grade in school served as pallbearers and her class attended in a body. She was the only daughter of the Ravellos, who have three sons.

TWO-OCEAN SAILOR

William Wyckoff, SM 2/c, really qualifies as an old hand aboard his ship, as he spent many months aboard the same vessel on the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and now finds himself far out on the Pacific. While most of the crew is new, Bill says "They're a great bunch of boys." He adds that "The weather is plenty warm but seems to be agreeing with me, as I can stand the heat, but not the cold....I can say that on our way out here to the Pacific, our ship stopped over at Coco Solo for a few days but I didn't see much of Panama, because there was a revolution in the town at the time and it was restricted to military personnel. I intended to visit Panama City and Balboa but only got a look at them through a port hole. Just a sailor's luck."

JUST BEING FRIENDLY

Some funny things have been happening near the Hopewell House lately. Folks walking along on either side of Broad Street would hear "Hello, hello," but when they looked around, probably no one was in sight. Or, on the other hand, perhaps the only person they saw was someone with whom they were not acquainted.

Walking on again, the same voice would call out "Hello, hello!" but looking around again, the situation was still the same. Those who looked more carefully in all directions detected that the "Hellos" came from a pet parrot, owned by the Ockelmanns, who run the Hopewell House. The parrot, in its cage, had been put outdoors to enjoy the sunshine, usually being on the cemetery side of the hotel property.

Wonder what would be done with the parrot if someone taught it to say: "Have one on the house!"

MEMORIES OF "THE SPOT"

Remember "The Spot," where a grilled sandwich was always sizzling in the back room, a juke box moaning loud and furiously, and a "Dusty Road" sundae probably in the making? Well, others do, too, as Pvt. James H. Hall recently discovered. Jimmy was on his way overseas. While up on dock, a fellow came up to him and asked Jimmy if he came from Hopewell. Then the chap told Jimmy that he had seen Jimmy in "The Spot," in the days when Jimmy was serving 'em up there. It turned out that the fellow is a resident of Griggstown, his name Gidy Waivor, and lived two doors from the Rightmires, who married Hopewell girls..... Jimmy is in Germany and says "You can keep track of no-where General Patton is, that's where I'll be." Incidentally, Jimmy made himself pretty popular with some of his pals by turning out a red-cherry pie.

HERE COMES THE MAIL MAN

Out on the Rural Route served from Hopewell's Post Office, they've been saying that to Edgar Copner for the past 31 years. That's his record of service, delivering the good news and the bad, the circulars and the Sears-Roebuck catalogues, and the packages of assorted sizes. He has experienced some tough weather, but "the mail must go through" and so he has battled it out. Does he know the route? Well, it would seem so--but it wasn't always that way. When he took the job after winning out in a Civil Service exam, his predecessor wasn't eager about showing him the route. So Copner arranged to get the horse that the former mail carrier had used, and he left it to the horse. The well-trained horse started to make the round of the mail boxes and the job went smoothly from the start. Two sons also are in Post Office work, Bob being in the Hopewell office while Sam is Assistant Postmaster at Princeton.

FURTHER WORD AWAITED

While a considerable number of American soldiers have been liberated from Nazi prison camps, in the onward surge across Germany, indications are that Pvt. Russell W. "Hokey" Holcombe, Jr. still awaits that happy day. Official word from the War Department informed his parents that he is being held at Stalag VII-A, a prison camp for enlisted men located at Moosburg, in Southeastern Germany, about 40 miles from the German-Austrian border and about 75 miles from the Czechoslovakian border to the north. With the Russian Army driving up through Vienna and the American Army pressing toward Nurnberg, 75 miles to the north of Moosburg, liberation may not be far off. His parents are hoping for some direct word from "Hokey," although realizing that Germany, on the verge of collapse, probably has dropped all efforts to release word to enemy nations concerning those held prisoner.

TRY-OUT FOR PENICILLIN

Now that the new drug known as penicillin is available for civilian use, it was brought into play in an effort to help Bertio Rowley, five-year-old son of Bert and Dorothy Rowley, of East Prospect Street. Bertio was the first, or one of the first to receive the treatment in Hopewell. He has been suffering with virus pneumonia, and running a high fever. Sulfa drugs had been tried without getting the fever down. To administer penicillin, it was necessary for five shots to be given at three-hour intervals, so Dr. Swertfeger offered to do it on his day off! The treatment was carried out, but unfortunately, the penicillin did not correct the fever condition, despite its miraculous successes with some types of cases. However, Bertie is improving slowly as seems to be the case with virus pneumonia.

THE LOSER WINS

It seems as if it was a good thing for Joe Pierson to lose out when he ran for Assembly last Fall. For he is now Deputy County Clerk for Mercer, being installed in a \$4,000-a-year job on April 2nd, instead of doing duty on a \$500-a-year position that would compel him to campaign every year for re-election. As it is, he serves at the pleasure of the newly appointed County Clerk, Albert H. Rees, who will run in the Fall for a full five-year term. The former County Clerk, Charles P. Hutchinson, became Common Pleas Judge through appointment by Governor Edge.

Joe Pierson will continue as Borough Clerk for Hopewell, but has taken a leave of absence from the Hopewell National Bank.

SCOUT DRIVE GOING NICELY

Cash is flowing in nicely in the drive by Troop #26, Boy Scouts, to raise \$500 to obtain a building as their permanent headquarters. The chart on the front of the Post Office indicates that \$325 has been turned in, but additional sums will bring the total much closer to the \$500 top. Because of the Red Cross drive now concluding, the Scout campaign was slowed down to some extent temporarily but it will be completed before the end of April. The Troop Committee, headed by Louis Heaymer, is convinced that a proper building will do much to help the Scout movement in Hopewell.

MISSED

Two highly-respected men, William H. Keslor and Edgar L. VanZandt, have passed on. Mr. Keslor, who had been ailing for some time but remained a familiar figure around the Keslor & Bellis store, died April 6th. He was a charter member of the Presbyterian Church and had taught a class in the Sunday School for 30 years. His daughter, Mrs. Florence Bellis, will continue the business.

Mr. VanZandt, who had lived with his son, Perce, at Blawenburg for the last couple of years since his wife died, succumbed after a heart attack while he was getting ready to go to church. He belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church at Blawenburg and had sung in the choir for over half a century, and superintended the Sunday School for 25 years. He also was a charter member of Mercer Grange #77. Only recently, he marked his 90th birthday and on that morning sat in one of the chairs in the Cox & Gray barbershop while a nine-year-old boy also was having his hair cut. Mr. Cox thought it was so unique that he had the boy shake hands with Mr. VanZandt, commenting that it wasn't often that "nine and ninety" met in that way.

DOING FINE, SAYS ERNIE BLACKWELL

The latest word from Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry) is "I am still in the hospital but doing fine." That was written April 4th. At that time, he had been in the hospital about eight weeks. While the original word from the War Department stated that he had been injured slightly, it has been learned indirectly that perhaps his present treatment is for "trench feet," or frostbite. Word received from another serviceman, who served with Ernie, indicated that both had the same trouble. In another letter, Ernie wrote "Am in pretty good shape. It was nothing serious." He says he sees a couple of movies a week in the hospital, plays cards and does some reading. Mail has been getting to him, including about 85 letters and seven packages. He adds: "I'll take a crack at Jersey the first chance they give me."

LIVES IN COFFEE FACTORY

Latest letters from Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) reveal that he has been living in a former coffee factory, just a few yards from the banks of the historic Rhine. He continues: "Our big guns and rocket guns are making quite a fuss outside, laying a little steel across the river into the enemy positions. I'm sure glad I am not on the receiving end." That was written March 31st but earlier he had given further facts as follows: "This large coffee factory was taken over by the Army as billets and such and we really have things very comfortable and convenient--electric lights, real German electricity, hot showers and our kitchen is set up in the factory's cafeteria, where we also have movies. The room that I have, along with a couple of buddies, was formerly a conference room and being in the cellar was recently used as an air-raid shelter. It has rugs on the floor, easy chairs, heat, electric lights and writing tables. We are sleeping on mattresses arranged along one wall and it is really nice. Doesn't sound much like a combat front, I will admit, but after all, isn't this a screwy war, anyway?"

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

For Harold Van Liew, A.O.M. 2/c, it looks as if he soon will be starting out for the Pacific. He recently went to a Naval Air Base near Boston, Mass. for special training, then returned to Groton, Conn. He was home on short leave on April 8. He has been assigned to a new ship, just commissioned, and sailing orders probably will soon follow.

Cpl. Graham L. Benson, of the Marines, is back in the Philippines again. He had indicated earlier that he had been pulled back to another island somewhat closer to our West Coast. He is an airplane mechanic with a Marine Aircraft Wing. He comments: "The weather here reminds me of weather back home, and I like it a lot better than where I was. I finally caught up with some of my mail. The candy manago to reach here in good condition; of course, it had melted a little bit and solidified again into one large hunk. The church box arrived in good condition but another box looked like it had been run over by a truck."

Pvt. William S. Conover (Infantry) is understood to be in a rehabilitation center, his foot being about well again. He had both feet frostbitten some time back.

Pvt. Harry McCandless (Field Artillery) is expected home on furlough from Fort Sill, Oklahoma. It will be his first trip back, and meanwhile he has taken training at Camp Roberts, Calif., and more recently attended school for special study in radio and radar mechanics. He says the end of his course is quite a relief.

A/S Paul A. Ashton, Army Air Corps, also has been home on furlough, coming in from Ellington Field, Texas (near Houston). It was his first trip home since he entered service four months ago. When he arrived, his first request was "A glass of good Jersey milk." On his trip home, he had a plane hop from Ellington Field to Nashville, Tenn.

John W. ("Jack") Wyokoff, Jr., S 2/c, is now in Atlanta, Georgia at the Naval Air Station.

Cpl. Edward H. Esche, who is with a Signal Aircraft Warning Battalion on a Pacific Island, tells a little of experiences after he and his tent mates decided to befriend a native youngster. They kept him in their tent for a little while until he received medical aid. The lad was from another part of the island. "We certainly will miss him when he goes back to his home," Edward says, then adds: "I never knew it cost so much to keep children over here. We had a few suits made for him and the civilian really charged plenty. Not that I regret paying it but just the appreciation of the people have for what we do for them."

Pfc. Herbert VanDyke reports from Northern Italy that he is "keeping pretty busy these days. Would like to tell of certain experiences I've had here but they'll have to wait." He is with a Military Police company.

Stanley Bealkowski, who recently went into the Navy, is now at the U.S. Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois.... Arch Adams is with the Marines on Iwo Jima. His folks were glad to hear that he was O.K., as also was the case with the family of Cpl. Parvin R. Strykor, Jr., serving in the same Marine Division.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

A promotion has advanced Robert M. Moyer, of Golden Avenue, to a Captaincy. He has been at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for some time....George C. Koeppel, 3rd, was married in Pennington Presbyterian Church on March 31 to Miss Mary Jean Mahan, of that town. Koeppel had just returned from Pacific duty....T/Sgt. Wilbur Lowe (Field Artillery) is reported in Belgium, as is Jim Adams....Pvt. William R. Bodine has been at home after finishing ASTRP studies at the Univ. of Buffalo, and has further orders from the Army Air Corps to report on the 20th....Raymond VanArsdale also has been home between assignments....Edward Kettenburg, A/T is in town for a 10-day furlough, coming from Craig Field at Selma, Ala....Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless, now in the Infantry, is home on furlough from Camp Howze, Texas.

Pvt. Thomas Possel, of the Marines, has completed at least one leg of his Pacific journey, writing that he was fine but couldn't tell anything further. He did add that he had "motted up" with Charles Milnor's son, from Pennington, and also with Tom's uncle, who is a Lieut. Col. and stationed in Honolulu, so that seems to tell the story as to Tom's point of arrival.

Cpl. William Ponelli, husband of Helen Rinzy, of Model Avenue, is "Somewhere in Belgium." Two of his brothers have lost their lives in overseas service. So Bill says he knows clearly what he is fighting for, but expresses disgust over news items reporting strikes back home....Pvt. Joseph Castagnola, who formerly lived in Hopewell and was active in sports, is with the Ninth Army somewhere in Germany. He says "I believe Hitler has issued a white handkerchief to every one of his soldiers and I have had a chance to see them wave them. While Joe took basic training in Medical, he had Infantry training in England but now is with a Tank Battalion, which he says "is no bed of roses." He has been through France, Belgium and Holland, but adds "Give me Jersey." His home as a civilian is in Union City, N.J.

Pvt. Arthur Yard, who is at Amarillo, Texas, with the AAF, says they had a real dust storm recently, and adds "Hope that doesn't happen again." He has been taking B-17 transition training, with 36 days in school....Pfc. Anton Holstrom is in Germany with an SAW Battalion, after moving up through France, Belgium and Luxembourg...Pfc. James S. Brizell is out of the hospital and has been shifted to the Engineers, from Infantry....Pvt. John Walter Knorr thinks he is in "GI Heaven," after being given a transfer to transportation, thereby getting living quarters in a hotel, with regular hours and even shower-bath facilities.

Florance DeHart, of the Army Nurses Corps, may be headed for the Burma-India war area, sailing a month or more ago after training at Atlantic City....Cpl. Katherine Ackerman, of the WACS, is stationed at Harlingen, Texas, within an hour of the Mexican border. She has been in the service over two years....Pvt. Raymond Otis, who formerly lived in Hopewell, is now at Colgate College, taking Navy V-12 for which he qualified after extended service in the Marines.

SPONSORS

Contributions to assist in paying bills for materials and postage required by the "News" have been received from the following: Mrs. William Brogenzer, Mrs. Clarence Runyon, Mrs. William Corcoran, Mrs. Edward Jones, Mrs. Edward VanArsdale, Mrs. Irene Adams Gray, Mrs. Geo. Rightmiro, Mrs. Fannie Holstrom, Mr. Harry Wilson, Mrs. Howard Butcher, Mrs. Chas. A. Brogenzer, Mrs. Ida Hancock, Theodore Pierson, 2nd, Mrs. Walter Titus, Pfc. Herbert VanDyke, Mrs. Helen Possel, Mrs. Leslie Warman and Mrs. Charles Warman.

CHURCH DOINGS

The LLL group of young ladies is completing rehearsals for a play to be given in the school auditorium on April 24th, with Mrs. Edward Lindsay having the leading role from which the show gets its name, "Sweet Sally Brown.".....Pastor Raymond A. Gray baptized four girls on Easter Sunday morning. The attendance is believed to have set a new church record, and on the same day, the Bible School attendance broke all previous marks.....The flower garden in which the former pastor, N. Vance Johnston, took such pride (the fence included) is almost a thing of the past, as the space is to be devoted to vegetables for the most part. The onions and carrots are already growing nicely....A search is in progress for the church deed, which the Trustees have not been able to locate....A Parent-Teacher night in connection with the Baptist Bible School is planned for May 1....The annual congregational meeting will be held in Calvary Baptist Church on Friday, May 11....The Ladies' Aid Society is planning a cafeteria supper for May 24th....The Annual Abolition Sunday with the receipt of pledges included, is to be held on April 22nd.

She: "You remind me of the ocean--"
 He: "Wild, reckless, romantic?"
 She: "No, you just make me sick."

Real Christians do not carry their religion, their religion carries them. It is not weight; it is wings.--E. B. Peadar.

BRIEF ITEMS AROUND TOWN

The Borough Honor Roll is an object of pride once again, now that a new flag has been suspended from the iron-pipe framework above the display panels listing the names of the Borough's servicemen.....With the return here of Mrs. Florence Hart Miller from the Pacific Coast with her husband, H.E. Miller, C.C.M. with the Seabess, there comes to light an experience she had with wearing apparel that was sent to her soon after she went to California. The package was addressed to her husband's camp address, and in view of the fact that he moved out for far Pacific duty, the package was shipped out too. So some of her clothing arrived in due time on Saipan, but quickly started again on the return trip. Miller is quite improved after extended hospital treatment for a fungus infection.

Nobody has been able to get at the records of the Fire Company for some time as a "gremlin" got into the combination and jinxed it.....Didja know that Hope Hill Township farmers own 7,075 cows, making the township second in the State in cow population.....Mrs. James Morrell, whose husband died recently, is now employed as telephone operator at Pennington, giving up her position as dietician at the Elementary School here.....Andy Wyokoff has been chug-chugging around town, doing a lot of garden ploughing with his tractor.

Varnell Gray narrowly escaped concussion of the brain a few days ago when he went to Trenton to take a swimming first-aid test. He took a dive into an indoor pool; unaware that the water was only about three feet deep at that end. He hit his head on the bottom of the pool and was knocked out, with his head and lip out. After treatment, he showed little ill effect but remained out of school a few days on his doctor's advice.

Mrs. John Ginter, along with Jack and Donald, have returned from Texas after visiting Captain Ginter, Army Air Force captain stationed at Perrin Field, near Oklahoma City. The boys went down shortly before Easter but Mrs. Ginter had spent several weeks there, part of which was given over to hospital care. She is greatly improved as the result of her sojourn.

According to reports, Lou Gerhard, who operates Weart's Market and the Eagle Bakery, isn't going to take over the former Braunworth newspaper business permanently after all. A trial is said to have disclosed that the problem of getting delivery boys is really something these days.....The C. Lloyd Drakes have a baby girl, named Nancy Charter Drake.

THE EDITOR CHATS

I'm taking space right here and now to say "Thanks a lot" to everyone for the highly interesting letters that come my way. Every one contains things of interest, even though it may seem to those in the service that censorship restrictions prevent the writing of what is most worthwhile. But your surroundings, your personal experiences (aside from military matters), your comments on "the passing show," all give a helpful picture of things to those who are back home.

I have only one complaint on that score--you're far too modest. They say the British are masters at under-statement, but I think some of our Hopewell fellows are giving real competition. But again, perhaps that's a good trait--but don't let it spoil the narration of incidents in which you have figured and which we would like to know about.

Secondly, I find it necessary to make mention again that the "Hopewell News" comes to you as a friendly service in the name of Calvary Baptist Church (although the Editor will take all the blame for any errors, etc.) and it is sent to those in the service with no thought of re-payment. Therefore, check any impulse you may have to send any cash, for the Editor just doesn't want to take contributions from those who are in the Armed Forces. You've done enough if you say you appreciate it--if you mean it--and write occasionally to report on "what's cookin'."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Teacher: "Johnny, can you define nonsense?"

Johnny: "Yes, teacher--an elephant hanging over a cliff with his tail tied to a daisy."

Citizen: (to a candidate): "I wouldn't vote for you if you were the Angel Gabriel."

Candidate: "If I were the Angel Gabriel, you wouldn't even be in my district."

"They tell me Warbler has a good voice. Is he cultivating it?"

"I can't say about the cultivating but I know he irrigates it quite frequently."

IN CLOSING

So Long for now. Date of issuance for next issue--May 8th. Best of luck,
97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J. DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor

Hopewell News

--Dean H. Ashton, Editor--

VOL. III, No. 7

Hopewell, N.J., May 8, 1945

38th Issue

THE GREAT DAY ARRIVES!

V-E DAY! Peace has come to the battlefields of Europe! The day is here for which millions have prayed; the achievement so stupendous that it seems almost unbelievable.

But as aptly stated by Rev. Raymond A. Gray, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, thoughtful people "will go to Church and will pray...knowing that God is still holding human destiny in the palm of His hand. Pray and thank God...knowing the cost and how to observe the meaning of victory."

Services are being held tonight in Calvary Baptist Church at 8 P.M. for the entire community, with prayers of thanksgiving and hymns of praise to God for the victory.

Victory--how sweet it is and what obligations it places upon us to hasten the day when similar success in the Pacific war zone can be proclaimed, and to make a just peace universal and cherished forever.

AWAITING CONFIRMATION

Any day now, the good news may reach Hopewell that Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe ("Hokey") is safe, after liberation with other Prisoners-of-War from the Nazi camp at Moosburg, north of Munich. About ten days have elapsed since the camp known as Stalag 7-A was taken by a tank battalion of the 14th Division. Later reports indicated that over 100,000 Allied prisoners were set free at that point.

Unlike some Nazi prison camps, Stalag 7-A was reported as consisting of good living quarters with most of the prisoners in good condition. "Hokey" has been held about five months, being captured in late November or early December, only a few weeks after going overseas.

RUMOR ABOUT MAPLE IS FALSE

Reports to the effect that Frank I. Maple, formerly of Hopewell, had lost his life in the Pacific war zone, are entirely without foundation. As recently as May 1, his mother and sister, Barbara, have received mail from him. The false reports naturally had given them no little uneasiness. But Frank, who is a S2/c with a Naval Construction Battalion, is in the Mariana Islands, working as a cook and baker. His letters tell of new experiences and are always quite cheerful. Frank formerly worked at the "Spot" but the Maple family moved to Trenton quite some time ago.

VISITS GRAVE OF FRANKLIN HILL

It may be that Cpl. John W. Flagg is the only Hopewell resident who will ever see the grave of Pvt. Franklin V.D. Hill, who gave his life on Feb. 19th while fighting with the U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima. Learning through the arrival of the "Hopewell News" about Hill's death, Jack felt impelled to seek his grave. This is what Flagg wrote: "I sure did get a shock when I read the paper and found that Franklin Hill was killed in action. I went over and saw his grave the other day and said a prayer for him....I was here (Iwo Jima) the same day he was killed."

CIVILIAN AGAIN

For S/Sgt. Dennis P. VanLiew, Army orders and discipline has come to an end, for he is back in civilian life. Because of the loss of his right arm while in action in France with an Armored Division last July 19th, Denny has been receiving hospital care and supervision for about seven months. But he has learned to use his now arm skillfully and convinced an examining board that he was ready for civilian life. His plans are still a little uncertain--whether it will be farming, poultry raising, special educational courses or something else. He had been in the Army over four and a half years, spending some time in England after crossing the Atlantic, and arriving in France July 16th, with his mishap following almost immediately.

OPPOSITE SHORES

Fate has been trying to play tricks with Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless, and his brother, Pvt. Harry E. McCandless. By good fortune, both have been home on furlough, Tom coming from Texas and Harry from Fort Sill, Oklahoma. But each carried orders that gave an odd twist to the course of events after that. For Harry was due to go to California, expecting to be shipped out, while Tom was due for an embarkation camp in the East, and possible shipment across the Atlantic--unless plans were suddenly changed.

KILLED IN ACTION

Two messages from the War Department in rapid succession brought worry, then extended grief to Mrs. Della Lake. The first telegram said that her son, Cpl. Herbert Lake, was missing in action, while the second stated that he had been killed in Germany. He was serving with General Hodge's First Army when fatally wounded but additional details are still lacking. Herb, before entering the Army, ran a filling station and was engaged to a Long Island girl. He has three brothers who are overseas, Cpl. William and Sgt. John Lake, in Germany, and Pvt. Bloomfield Lake, serving in England.

CLOSE CALL

Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Infantry) had a close call when he sustained numerous shrapnel wounds in Germany on April 8th--as seven pieces of shrapnel struck him about the head, neck and shoulders. Others inflicted wounds about his hips, the most severe cut being six inches long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth on his right hip. He underwent an operation almost immediately, then was flown by plane back into France for further care.

Latest letters report that his hip wound requires him to lie on his stomach most of the time. Some of the shrapnel was not removed. In his first letter after the mishap, Garrett wrote: "I wanted to write before the War Dept. got word home but I'm afraid I won't make it. I got out up pretty bad by shrapnel but I'm all in one piece. I hadn't written for quite a while before this but we were too busy...Don't worry because I'm O.K." The circumstances under which he was injured remain undisclosed, although earlier letters told of routing snipers from the captured towns. Garrett went into the Army last July 26th and went overseas in January. It is understood that he will receive a Purple Heart award by reason of his injury.

PROMOTED

Bertha A. Sheppard, of the Army Nurses Corps, has been promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. It is understood that she is stationed at a hospital in Marseille, on the coast of Southern France. She previously served in North Africa and Italy.

DECLINE TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION

After being on leave from the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church for two years, Captain John H. Ginter (Army Air Force) tendered his resignation, but the congregation has declined to accept it. The situation was discussed at a church meeting held a week or so ago. Captain Ginter is now stationed at Perrin Field, Texas, and previously was at Buckley Field, Denver, Colorado. It is understood that the resignation was prompted by the uncertainty as to the additional time that will elapse before he completes his Army chaplaincy. However, the view that prevailed in the congregation was that, like other servicemen, Captain Ginter was entitled to the same position when the war is over. With the resignation turned down, Dr. Edward Jurji, of the Princeton Theological Seminary faculty, will continue to occupy the pulpit as stated supply. Jack Ginter, older son of the Ginters, hopes to enlist in the Navy, completing his High School work this June, while Mrs. Ginter and son, Donald, will go to Texas to be with Captain Ginter during the Summer months.

ACROSS REMAGEN BRIDGE

Stanley H. ("Bucky") Runyon has the distinction of belonging to the outfit that seized the Remagen bridge, enabling American troops to cross the Rhine and establish the bridgehead that ripped open "Fortress Germany." It was the 310th Infantry, of the 78th Division. "Bucky" has now advanced in rank, being a corporal instead of a private, first-class.

MEMORIAL DAY PLANS

While the number of veterans of World War II who are available is sharply limited, plans are progressing for the Hopewell observance of Memorial Day. A parade is contemplated, ceremonies at the cemeteries, as well as special services on the previous Sundays in the churches. Herbert F. Rorer, as president of the Memorial Day Association, has named several committees to help work out the details.

SUCCESSFUL DRIVES

Residents have taken it pretty cheerfully and "shelled out," despite the fact that financial drives have been coming thick and fast. The Boy Scout drive to raise \$500 as a fund to negotiate for suitable headquarters has gone "over the top." The exact figure is not available as yet, but the canvassers found that most people agreed that more should be done locally to assist the youth groups. Likewise, the drive for the Red Cross War Fund was well supported, the total received being \$2,793., almost \$300 above the \$2,500 goal. Another campaign--not represented by dollars and cents--has just been held, too, involving clothing for destitute victims of the war in European countries. Girl Scouts gathered up bundles and bundles of clothing, in a house-to-house collection, taking it to the Fire House for sorting and packing.

FIREMEN CALLED TO CHURCH

Ringo players, who like the excitement of winning a cash prize, experienced a different form of excitement last Thursday night when a short-circuit in the wiring of the Catholic Church prompted a hurry-up call for the firemen. At first, efforts were made to avoid calling the Fire Company, and hurried attempts were made to locate someone in town who could make disconnections. However, the overheating soon prompted an emergency call, but firemen had little to do.

VICTORY GARDENS

Gardeners who "rushed the season" during the warm weather early in April have repented to a considerable extent because of a long cold-and-rainy spell. Peas, cabbage and lettuce could "take it," but those who ventured to plant lima beans and corn are still waiting to see them come through the soil. And with it, of course, goes the usual joshing.

One day in the Cox & Cray barber shop, Harry Cox was asking whether there was going to be frost, saying he was worried about his peas. He added that they were out in blossom. One customer commented: "You must have planted them last Fall!" Later, Cox revealed that he hadn't planted any peas this year....Ed VanArsdale has been undergoing a quizzing as to whether he planted yellow string beans, for the cold weather had turned his sprouting beans to that color...Henry Braasch, building a substantial frame-work for his tomato vines (to come) found that it had been nicknamed the "bullpen," while questions asked were: "Do you expect your tomatoes to weigh 50 pounds a piece?" and such like.

PROMOTED

Raymond C. Lowe, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Lowe, of Princetown Ave., has been promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. He has flown a total of 1,100 hours in various types of planes at Harlingen Army Air Field, since receiving his wings and commission in Texas in July, 1943. He has been in the service since July, 1942. He is attached to the Flight Test Section and is a test pilot for fighter aircraft.

His brother, E. Forrest Lowe, serving in the Merchant Marine, has just been at home after a trip aboard a freighter going to the West Indies and New Orleans. He had been gone about two months on this assignment. Visiting the Scout Troop #29 while at home, he exhibited Cuban matches that created a lot of interest, being waxy and limp in the "stick" but difficult to extinguish when burning. "Forry" said that when ignited on a ship's dock at sea, the matches rarely blow out despite strong winds.

WITH MARINES ON OKINAWA

Pfc. Robert A. VanDoren is participating in the conquest of Okinawa, island adjacent to the Japanese homeland. He is with a Signal Battalion of the U.S. Marines. In letters, he says he is in fine health; experiencing cool nights but welcoming the change from hotter climate, previously being in the tropics.

COMPLETING MISSIONS

Lieut. Konnoth R. Burroughs may be home shortly, having revealed that "my mission days are nearly past." He has been based in England with a Bomb Group that has ranged far and wide to "soften up" Germany for the final blows. His group recently finished its 300th mission, and indications are that "Konny" has been on 30 or more of them. Writing on April 9th, he said "I hope to be back in Hopewell in a matter of weeks, unless the war ends before I complete my tour of duty; then lack of transportation may delay me somewhat."

HAPPY MEETINGS

When you're in Assam, India, or on faraway Guam, a meeting with a home-towner or a relative is quite an event. Sgt. Frank P. Jones, who is with an Air Cargo Resupply Squadron in Assam, had just such an experience. He stopped in at the Red Cross and looked through the State registry books, and after going about a page and a half, saw the word "Hopewell." Frank writing: "You can be sure I lost no time in looking this party up and found him to be Cpl. Henry F. Missol. (His folks live in the Kitchen house just outside the Borough.) He had been over here a year. This was the first time either one of us had met anyone from home...Yesterday, he came down to spend the day with me and it would have done your heart good to see how busy he kept me dragging out back issues of the 'Hopewell News' for him to read." And Missol has written that for him it was a never-to-be-forgotten experience, too, for aside from news from home, he was interested in Jones' experiences in getting supplies into China.

And over on the island of Guam in the Pacific, Robert McLaughlin, assigned to a Fleet Hospital, discovered on a day in early April that his brother, Dewey, had "walked in" on him. They spent an entire day together before Dewey "shoved off" for home. His Navy assignment aboard a destroyer was bringing him back to the States, and he is now back in Hopewell for a visit. Dewey had been out for a year, and his ship had been in numerous naval battles, including the invasion of the China Sea, Tinian, Saipan, Guam and the Marshall islands.

PIERSONS RETURNING EAST

Lieut. Col. J. R. ("Rog") Pierson, who has been stationed in Portland, Oregon, is reported coming East by auto to assume duties in New Jersey. It is understood that he will be at the Lyons' Veterans Facility for a few weeks, and then will assume charge of another veterans' hospital nearby. Mrs. Pierson and two children are re-joining because of the return to Hopewell.

CHANGES AT SCHOOL

It is understood that the Elementary may have a non-teaching principal with the beginning of the September term. If the plan is carried out, Earl B. Whitcraft, principal, will be able to devote all his time to supervisory matters, instead of having charge of the Sixth Grade and doing departmental teaching. In that event, a new teacher will be required, along with another to replace Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice who does not plan to return. Mrs. Boice plans to go to Wyoming to resume residence, anticipating the return of her husband before another school year would be over.... The School Board has adopted new rules regarding admission of children, effective in September.

School pupils engaged in a contest for the best book-plate drawing to be used in the School Library volumes hereafter. Edith Waldron won first prize, with Joyce Kilmer second. A book display was held in the school recently, with the classes asked to indicate the books they would like to see purchased.

NEWSPAPER ROUTES SOLD

It looks now as if a permanent owner has been obtained for the newspaper agency that operated many years under the Braunworth name. For a few months, it was conducted by Robert Fuss, who came here with his wife from Indiana. However, they decided that "my home in Indiana" was too appealing, and so they sought another buyer. It looked as if Louie Gerhard, of the Eagle Bakery and Weart's Store, was going to buy it and he did give it a try-out. However, he decided it was more than he wanted to handle, along with his other interests. Then Frank Hall, of Model Avenue, came into the picture and came to terms with Fuss for its purchase. Hall works at the H.A. Smith plant, so he will only supervise the newspaper routes, excepting Sundays. The Fussos have gone back to Indiana.

HOW THEY DISAPPEARED!

A funny thing happened recently in respect to church bulletins issued every Sunday at Calvary Baptist Church. Copies that are left over usually are accumulated for two or three weeks, then sent to the Home Department chairman, Miss Elsie Snook, who passes them along to shut-ins. Recently, a volunteer was enroute to Miss Snook's with a supply, but stopping in Edling's store, placed them on the counter and then forgot them, when picking up bundles. Going back the next day, the woman was informed that "They went like hot-cakes--everybody who came in seemed to want one." In fact, Edling said that an OPA leaflet that he wanted to distribute was ignored, with the church bulletins preferred. The moral of the story is this: Everyone is welcome at Calvary Baptist Church and a church bulletin will be supplied cheerfully every Sunday morning at the 11 A. M. service.

ARRIVES IN CHINA

Pfc. Wilbur U. Hurlay, of Stoutsburg, has arrived in China with a Bomb Squadron. He had been stationed in South Carolina for considerable time with an Anti-Aircraft Battery previously. He reports that "Everything is O.K.; nice country where I am and living conditions are good." His brother, J. Hilbert Hurlay, is in the Navy as a Q.M. 3/c assigned to an LST, and recently was there in the Okinawa invasion! He said that Japanese suicide planes and torpedoes gave them many anxious minutes, but he came through it safely.

PIGEON RACES

Every Sunday, several dozen pigeons come winging back to Hopewell as participants in races being run off by owners of lofts in this vicinity. The present races are for old birds and will continue for eight consecutive weeks. Later, races for young birds--born this Spring--will be staged. In the first race, a pigeon owned by Harold Farlee was first to cover the 100-mile course, with a pigeon owned by Frank Wyckoff, a fifth grade boy, finishing second. Their speed was about 41 miles an hour. But plans were wary a week ago. A crate holding 96 pigeons was shipped to Romington, Va. for a 200-mile race, but the crate was delayed in Washington, D.C. and the homers couldn't be released at the scheduled time. Some frantic phone calls were made, with the whereabouts of the birds traced, but the race had to be postponed to the following day. This time, Joe Siciginano's pigeon won the diploma, while Frank Wyckoff was second.

HAD SIMILAR TRAVEL PLANS

George C. Koepfel, 3rd, was surprised to see A/T Paul A. Ashton at Mercer Field, West Trenton, getting ready for a trip in a Navy Avenger. It developed that the latter was starting for Ellington Field, Texas, to resume duties in the Army Air Corps after a two weeks' furlough at home, while Koepfel was starting for San Diego, Calif. and further Pacific assignment. A flock of planes were starting out that day for delivery in California, but Koepfel and Ashton saw each other again at Spartansburg, S.C. and again at Fort Worth, Texas, where Ashton took a train for Houston, while Koepfel continued West the following morning. Koepfel had taken a bride while at home.

APPRECIATION

If you enjoy this issue, remember that it's made possible by friends who have contributed sums to underwrite the cost. Those doing so recently include Mrs. J. Devlin, Russell F. Drake, Mrs. Anna Phillips, Mrs. Samuel Little, Mr. Calvin Hill, Mrs. Frank Hall and Mrs. Josiah Lowe.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pfc. Herbert VanDyke's expected furlough from Northern Italy is a reality, and he is back in town enjoying familiar sights. He had been overseas for many months, being with a Military Police group, and was due for a return to the States under the rotation plan.

Robert E. Lowe went into the Navy on April 16th and is now an A/S at Sampson, N.Y. William R. Bodine left April 20th for Army Air Corps duty, after advance studies and training in the ASTRP at the Univ of Buffalo. He went to Sheppard Field, Texas, after a short stay at Fort Dix... Pvt. William J. Ashton (Infantry) may have left for overseas, being home on furlough. On the day he arrived home, he found a big chocolate cake awaiting him, his Mother getting it ready, knowing Bill's weakness. Bill, according to reports, ate a healthy portion of it before he called a halt.

Pfc. Donald C. Dilts is in a hospital in England but the nature of his ailment is not known at present. He reported his whereabouts after quite some anxiety at home concerning him because of the absence of mail. He had been in Italy and France with a Tank Battalion. However, he wrote that he was getting along O.K. It is thought that he may have experienced a recurrence of trouble with his legs, such as he had before he went into the Army. George O. Phillips, SFl/c, is in a Navy Base Hospital for observation after being out on the Pacific with a new ship recently added to the fleet. His trouble is not disclosed, although he previously had had some difficulties brought on by heavy lifting. In a letter written aboard ship, Phillips commented that "We didn't lose any time after our commissioning day in getting where we can do the most good... We have soon much in our travels and on board we have our own fun, too. We have movies and exchange them at sea with our sister ship via the breeches buoy... Our food is good and our ice-cream machine is kept busy. Our bake-shop is another luxury and our bakers are the best." He enclosed a copy of the newspaper mimeographed aboard ship, using news obtained by radio. He added that church services aboard ship also are well attended.

Lawrence B. Hurley, Tec/4, has been moving ahead with a Medical Battalion into Germany, moving 20 to 30 miles a day at times, but giving service almost continuously. Rescuing wounded men under fire and administering first-aid has been a part of the service given.

Writing on April 5th, Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) said: "We are just on the edge of the industrial Rhine valley and the horizon is studded with smokestacks, power line towers and elevators... Signs of the Air Force are everywhere but a lot of these places are perfectly intact, even down to having electric power and water... Believe what you want but from my observations these German people were not lacking a single thing. They all have clothes galore and every cellar is full of canned goods. They should be well fixed after draining every other country. The Hollanders are the ones who are bad off... Spring is definitely here and it is easy to see why the Rhine valley is so famous scenically."

To Sgt. Leonard W. Vandowater, a steak dinner was a special event recently. He says: "It sure tasted good after K Rations... I can't eat as much as when I was home, because my stomach has gotten smaller from not eating a lot all the time." He is in the Infantry and was last reported with the Third Army.

S/Sgt. Charles "Rog" Hurley reveals that he was with a Coast Artillery group that landed on an island and cleared it, there being "No Army but us." He explained that folks are mistaken if they think the Coast Artillery "just sits around and waits for a ship to come so they can start shooting at it. No, I have never been on an actual invasion on D-Day, but have seen my share of other things." Referring to the island seizure, he said: "There were Japs in the hills and jungles, so we had to clear them out. That meant nice long and hard patrols. I have learned more in eight months just past than in three years previous." "Rog" has received another bronze battle star, which he prizes as it adds points under the rotation furlough plan, and he hopes he will be able to get back home by late Fall or early Winter.

Harry Loveless, husband of the former Marie Bregenzler, is improving steadily while a patient at the England General Hospital, Atlantic City. He has been there since January, being wounded overseas. Pfc. Robert X. Briggman was back in town with his bride a few days ago. He is assigned to a Station Hospital on Staten Island. William A. Stout, SP Al/c, is father to a boy born April 11th at Bernardsville where his wife is at her parents' home. Pvt. John P. Lutz is now overseas and assigned to an Armored Company. Pfc. Nicholas Guiseppe, with a medical detachment, says that a warning of a \$65 fine or 65 days in the guardhouse for anyone found talking to a prisoner soon put an end to that.

Pfc. James Bregenzler, who was at Scott Field, Ill. is now at Sheppard Field, Texas. Pvt. Bruce E. Vansant, who was training at North Fort Lewis, Wash., now has an APO out of San Francisco.

Pfc. George Knudsen, with an Engineers Battalion, lets it be known that "I caught a couple of Hitler's 'Supermen,'" adding that "I guess they'd had enough war."

Pfc. William Johnson has been in Belgium, doing clerical work after recuperating from injuries of the chest. His delayed mail finally caught up with him, and descended on him like an avalanche--one week's bundle containing over 100 letters.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

S/Sgt. Harry A. Devlin, with the First Army in Germany, says that he is fine "except that we have to cook our own meals, but have been managing pretty fair. We barter a little and get fresh eggs from the German families here." Cpl. Hugh A. Devlin, who has been overseas 17 months, writes that his job calls for quite a bit of travel as he is with a Service Group of the Ninth Air Force in Germany. He has been through France, Belgium and Holland also....Cpl. John "Chick" Devlin, stationed at an Air Base in England, is assistant to the chaplain. "Chick" has located several cousins there and has spent some time with them in Southport, England, and elsewhere....Joseph and Thomas Devlin, with the Merchant Marine, returned recently from a trip to England and France, and expected to set out again from Norfolk, Va....Pfc. William L. Stonaker, brother-in-law of the Devlins, is stationed at Fort Belvoir, Va. and spent a recent week-end with his wife and daughter on Columbia Ave.

Raymond Burd, MM2/c, who is on the same vessel as Robert I. Hill, MM3/o, says "Everywhere that we've been, we've been together. I don't believe there are too many places left for us to visit out in these waters...You see one and you've seen all; anyway. On some of the islands, there are people living. Naturally they have to move. They're a rotten bunch and most of the time we have to force them to move.... Things are looking up now and very bright indeed....We are now (April 3) at a port where we can have liberty. There is very little to do here. I can't disclose name at present, but it is interesting to walk around on pavements again."

Cpl. John W. Flagg says that the story of "steam-heated foxholes" told by Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr. is quite true. Also writing from Iwo Jima, "Jack" Flagg says: "He wasn't kidding about that. The water we use in our shower comes out of the wells at about 140 degrees. We never have to worry about heating water to wash clothes or to take a bath...I had to sleep in a foxhole for about a month but now we are living in tents. Everything is going along fine....Our Fighters have been over Tokyo quite often lately. Now I feel I am doing something to get the war over."

DOINGS AROUND TOWN

It looks as if there will be a big crowd to food at the turkey cafeteria supper to be held in Calvary Baptist Church on Saturday, May 26th...The Eighth Graders of the Elementary School had quite a day of it in New York, this being the annual trip....The new wallpaper store with Ralph Cray, Jr. in charge presents quite an attractive appearance in the former 5-8-10 location, next to the Kesler & Bellis store....At Woart's pond, they've installed a concrete rim about a foot high around the edge of the "swimmin' hole," which should add the extra depth that the divers have wanted for quite a while....Robert Davis, of Hamilton Ave., has enlisted in the Merchant Marine and expects to attend Officers' Training School, probably in Mississippi....Mrs. Margaret Lawson, of the school faculty, anticipates that her husband may get home soon, after being gone nearly three years with service in New Guinea and points beyond.

Isaac Cray, roofer and plumber, has passed away at the age of 70....Fred Ege, of Columbia Ave., also has passed on at the age of 55. He had worked for the Princeton Univ. Press....A bad accident occurred recently near Mine Road, below the Kitchel property, when a car driven by James Suydam, of near Fernington, turned over several times as it left the curve in the highway at that point. Hitting a tree and landing in the field beyond, the car was almost completely wrecked, while Suydam sustained a skull fracture, rib injuries, etc.

There's music to be heard in the Calvary Baptist parsonage these days, as Rev. Raymond A. Gray, a talented pianist, sits at the keyboard of the piano he recently acquired...On a recent Sunday, four servicemen attended Calvary Baptist Church, (being Tom and Harry McCandless, Ed Sheppard and Harold VanLiou (Army, 2; Marines, 1, Navy, 1)....After a public sale, Mrs. F. M. Leigh has vacated her Front Street property, the new owner being Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Dawley, formerly of White Horse....The play presented with an all-female cast by the Tri-L Club of Calvary Baptist Church really "packed 'em in" at the Grammar School. The show made quite a hit. Mrs. Jos. Baldwin, Jr. coached the cast....State Police have been searching for a pack of dogs running wild in the Township and playing havoc among flocks of sheep and geese.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The man who always looked at the bright side of things had the misfortune to suffer a visit from burglars in his store.

"But it could have been worse," he said philosophically. "You see, I didn't lose as much as I might have, for I had just finished marking down things for the month-end sale."

She was one of those tender young creatures and the diffident GI (it's said that there are a few!) inquired cautiously: "You don't shrink from kissing, do you?"

"Heavens, no!" exclaimed the not-too-tender miss, "if I did I'd be all skin and bones!"

FIRE DAMAGES EAGLE BAKERYAND RUINS SCOUT BUILDING

Hopewell, N.J., May 30--A fire that threatened to reach serious proportions caused extensive damage to the Eagle Bakery and destroyed the Boy Scout building adjoining on Mercer Street at the supper hour tonight, to climax Memorial Day excitement in the Borough. It is believed that the blaze was due to spontaneous combustion, as newspapers and scrap paper resulting from recent salvage drives had been stored in the Scout building.

The north side of the two-story bakery property was gutted by the flames, with considerable damage in the bakery-store and ice-cream parlor. For a quarter-hour, it appeared that the flames would sweep through the entire property and menace the double-house facing Broad Street. A strong breeze at the outset of the fire sent the flames high into the air. Firemen also were handicapped by the small brook that runs beneath the two properties.

The fire attracted a large crowd, particularly because the wind carried smoke across town. The Hopewell Fire Company brought the blaze under control, with the assistance of Pennington firemen, who responded to an emergency call and put extra hose lines into action.

As a member of the Fire Company, Robert Cogner, Scoutmaster of Troop #26, started for the Fire House when the alarm sounded at 6.10 P.M. but ran into the Scout house when he saw the location of the fire. He rescued flags despite the intense heat. A newer set of flags, used earlier in the day in the Memorial Day parade, was not in the building at the time.

Louis Gerhard, bakery proprietor, entered the store with firemen as soon as possible to cover showcases and refrigerators with tarpaulins. Later, firemen and others carried bags of flour and sugar from the bakery to store them in a building back of the Hopewell House, on the opposite side of Mercer Street.

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"HOKEY" DUE TO ARRIVE

Any day now, long-awaited footsteps and a cheery "Hello, Mom" will be heard at the Russell Holcombe home, for Pvt. Russell W. ("Hokey") Holcombe, liberated Prisoner-of-War, is expected. Weeks and weeks of uncertainty ended May 21st upon the arrival of a letter in his own writing stating that he was "safe and in very good health."

"Hokey's" Mother and Dad were almost overwhelmed by the news. Not a bit of mail had come from him following the official word soon after Christmas that he was missing. Quite some time elapsed before further word stating that he was in a German prison camp. He had gone overseas only a few weeks prior to his capture, being in the Infantry. While no word came from her son, Mrs. Holcombe was firm in her faith that he would return safely in due time. While American troops were overwhelming Germany, radio reports told of horrors perpetrated in some Nazi prison camps, making it difficult for the Holcombes to listen for news, eager as they were for word that Stalag 7-A the reported location of Russell, Jr., had been reached. But even after that, three more weeks elapsed before a letter came, written on May 10th at Reims, France. It revealed that he had been at Stalag 7-B at Memmingen, about 35 miles from Lake Constance and the Swiss border. "Hokey" had been a prisoner about five months.

His letter follows: "Dear Mom: Well, I am safe, in good health and in good hands (G.I.'s). I was liberated on the 26th of April.... Soon we were taken to an airport and waited there for air transports. Today, May 10th we were flown to Reims, France, where I am now waiting for a shower and more shots in the arm. Then I will go to LeHavre and leave for the States by air or ship, whichever is available.... I am very anxious to get home again, believe me. I've seen enough of Germany. I suppose everything is the same back in good old Hopewell... I'll be home as soon as I can get there, possibly two weeks. Love, Jr."

"ERNIE" BLACKWELL GETS BACK

A telegram from Charleston, S.C. last Sunday revealed that Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry) was in the U.S.A. again. He now has been flown to Staten Island where he will receive further hospital treatment. He has been suffering from a severe case of frozen feet, due to overexposure while in Germany with General Patton's Army. Despite four months' treatment, Ernie's feet remain so tender that it is difficult for him to wear shoes.

A few hours after the telegram arrived, Ernie phoned to his wife, Joan, who was thrilled to know that she soon would be able to see him again. He had gone overseas last August, and now has been in the Army two years and five months. On Feb. 15, he was reported "slightly injured" with further details lacking for quite a while, until it developed that a letter telling his trouble had gone astray.

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 8

Hopewell, N.J., May 30, 1945

39th Issue

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

It's Memorial Day and here comes the parade! Hear the band playing--see the flags flying, the firing squad, veterans, Scouts, school children, firemen and the horse-back riders! It's Hopewell's big event with appropriate ceremonies at the cemeteries to honor the dead who sacrificed all for love of country.

The parade, blessed by blue skies overhead and a cool breeze, followed a new route, starting at West Broad Street and Ege Avenue, and taking in West Prospect St. and Model Avenue. Winkler's Band, of Trenton,--expensive but first-class, provided plenty of marching tunes. The marchers halted on Greenwood Avenue while a firing squad, color guard, buglers and clergy went on up the hill to Highland Cemetery. Fire engines provided transportation--although it was a rather unusual sight to see fire trucks in a cemetery.

At St. Michael's Children's Home, the children, waving flags, greeted the paraders. Ceremonies were held there, also at the Catholic Cemetery, Elementary School, in front of the Borough Honor Roll and at the Old School Baptist Cemetery. At the latter place, the firing squad gave a "Chinese fire-cracker" effect to one round, possibly because they knew that an Association meeting was in progress nearby in the meeting house.

Seven veterans of World War II participated, including C. Lloyd Drake, Ed. Savidge, Oliver Jenkins, Wm. C. Eelman, Sr., John F. Corcoran (newly arrived on leave from the Pacific) and a paratrooper, visiting locally. While honoring the dead, paraders and onlookers alike were not unmindful that about 175 from Hopewell are now in military service, scattered all over the world. But there's the hope that Memorial Day, 1946, will find the world at peace and all the veterans safely back home.

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V-E DAY REACTIONS AND CHANGES

Great changes are taking place, as an aftermath to V-E Day. Fellows in the service and folks back home are trying to learn the answers to questions concerning releases from the Army, reassignments, furloughs, transfer to the Pacific war zone, etc. Cpl. Edwin T. Sheppard, Marine veteran of the Saipan-Tinian and other Pacific island invasions, probably summed up the view of most service men when he said the other day: "All I want is a new suit of clothes." However, all realize that victory over Japan is necessary if an era of peace is to be achieved. So most everyone is saying, "Let's get ahead with the job, we'll continue to do whatever is required of us." That's the spirit that will hasten the day of final victory.

Letters arriving from Europe indicate that readjustments will be taken in stride. Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) will be in the Army of Occupation, it is reported; likewise, that Cpl. William Penelli (Air Service Squadron), who is the husband of Helen Rinz, will remain in Germany.

But reports indicate that V-E Day with the troops in Germany was not an occasion for boisterous hilarity. Pfc. Joe Murodda (Infantry), writing on May 12th, said: "I imagine the people back home heard the news of the war's end just a few hours after it occurred. I can just picture what happened there. I'll bet the shouting is just dying down now. As to our reactions, we were happy, but it just didn't have that big ice-cream cone effect when you were a kid. I believe the boys, plus myself, were thinking of the future and what it might have in store for us."

Here in Hopewell, the great news set the church bells a-ringing, schools and stores closed, and a few fire-crackers were set off, but in general the townspeople had a feeling of gratitude that prompted quiet observance of the historic May 8th. The community V-E Day service, held in Calvary Baptist Church, was attended by 225 persons, and was a most impressive occasion. Rev. Raymond A. Gray, Baptist pastor, spoke in remembrance of the sacrifices, while Rev. Harold R. Fuss, of the Methodist Church, stressed the need of re-dedication to the fostering of lasting peace through the acceptance individually of Christian teachings. A combined choir of about 25 voices sang a special anthem.

A number of restrictions have been eased since V-E Day. Gasoline rationing is to be eased up to some extent; outdoor lighting was O.K.'d and the Colonial Theatre looked bright again with its concealed lighting effect.

It's regrettable, of course, that those assigned to Pacific duty, haven't been able to share in these historic events, but there'll be a day when they, too, can be on the scene and know the sweetness of victory.

CIRCUS ARRIVES

The "Colossal" Dix Bros. circus was in town. But a number of boys who stayed away from the Elementary School so they could help raise the tent paid for it later, with suspensions handed out for their absence from classes. The show was held up on the Hart Ave. ball diamond, and was it hot in that tent! One performance was given. The animals in the circus consisted of three monkeys, four goats, a pony, two donkeys and five trained dogs. Music was of the "carned" variety. Harold Agin and Warren Lewis were pressed into service to sell popcorn. Toward the end of the show, someone hollered out: "When is the circus going to begin!"

AWARDED PURPLE HEART

Those shrapnel wounds inflicted upon Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Infantry) in Germany on April 8th have brought him a Purple Heart award. Since the date of its presentation, he has been discharged from a U.S. Hospital in France, enjoyed a three-day furlough in Paris and returned to his Company to await further orders. He says he is feeling fine again although he hasn't regained his strength completely. The shrapnel caused injuries about the head, neck and shoulders, and a deep gash below his right hip.

About the time he was able to be out of bed and sitting up a while, three officers walked into his ward and called his name. He stood up and then fell to the floor because of his weakened condition. Buddies helped him up, while Garrett still wondered what was happening. The first officer, a lieutenant, read a citation awarding the Purple Heart; a Major handed the Purple Heart to the third officer, a Colonel, and the latter pinned it on Garrett. He wrote to his wife that he would send it home, wearing the Purple Heart ribbon on his uniform.

His stay in Paris was a big event, with some souvenir buying, visits to famed places, etc. After all, Garrett had to especially remember his daughter, Gail, whose picture, submitted in a "picture contest" held for children of fellows in the service, had won second prize. In fact, Garrett had submitted two photos and he succeeded in fooling the judges, who said that the two pictures had tied for the second award! Garrett was only wishing he had a picture of his young son, Garry, who was born shortly before Garrett went overseas in January.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Moh he bn wrttn abt refrmd spiling as a savr of spo. Possibly ths wld b a gd pln. Bt it wld b a bttr pln if it wr carrd frthr. If a systm of abbrvtns wr adpdt as much as 40 pct of spo old b savd. It wldn't be so hrd as u mght thnk. U on read ths, on't u?--(From Dallas News).

BUSY, BUZZING BEES

Things in town were really buzzing the other day when a swarm of bees decided to liven things up a bit. At first, they started to hive up near Weart's Store but then shifted to a tree near the Post Office. "There's a million of 'em," someone declared, and it looked that way. The problem was--how to get them to move on. Joe Tucker tried blowing cigarette smoke at them, using a double extension ladder to get to them. He was rewarded by a bee-sting, while some bees got into his hair. Then "Doc" Amos Stults went to work. He seized the hive, threw it down where George Spenser seized it and tossed it in a box, covering it with a lid and then carrying it away.

RETURNS FROM ASIA

Sgt. Frank P. Jones, formerly of Mt. Rose, has just completed a 20-day stay at home (now it's Princeton) after being in India, China and most recently in Assam. He had been gone almost two and a half-years. He's still wondering how it all happened as far as his furlough is concerned. He has been with the Air Cargo Resupply group and about the time that he'd be thinking a furlough was due, he would be moved elsewhere. So he went the entire time without a real furlough. However, he finally got it fully planned, having decided he wanted to get a look at Siberia. On the day before he was to start, his commanding officer said to him: "Tomorrow you leave for the States!" And leave he did, travelling by plane by way of Africa and South America, and making the entire distance in four days. On his way out, it had taken him two months to reach his destination.

Jones admits that he has had a number of narrow escapes, but he isn't very talkative when it comes to telling the story behind his Air Medal distinction and other decorations. He agrees that he was kept busy most of the time, on some days flying on as many as five missions. He has reported back to Atlantic City for re-assignment.

SHOW MAKES A HIT

Even a brewing thunderstorm failed to affect the hit-show presented by a clever cast in the School auditorium on May 18th under the auspices of the Junior Roundabout Club. It was a comedy entitled "Have A Heart!" and the capacity audience regarded it as a fine evening's entertainment. "The way you look at a guy!" declared Rev. Harold R. Fuss, Methodist pastor, to Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice--a line from the play--and another high spot was when Mahlon Riley, as a "bouncer" called upon to act as a butler in a private home, took a fancy to a chorus girl (Miss Viola Cutts, of the school faculty) said: "You're my dame--stay here until I gets the ring."

Mrs. Boice played the role of the charming neighbor who made the wife of "Teddy, dear!" (Mr. Fuss) suspicious, while Marion L. James played the difficult part of the misunderstood wife, but when her husband swung her bodily over the sofa to take her in his arms, things became much happier. Jack Wert was the rich employer whose visit caused all the complications--and there was a new tangle every few minutes. Kenneth L. Williamson coached the cast.

ENTERING SERVICE

Jack Ginter, son of Captain John H. Ginter (Presbyterian pastor on leave and serving in the Air Corps in Texas) has enlisted in the Navy. He is finishing High School early in June. As the Navy has a waiting list to fill its quota, he has been advised that he may have to take his chances with Selective Service call, if the Navy doesn't reach his name before.

George Brain, who recently moved to Columbia Ave. from Princeton, has entered the service, and his name has been added to the Calvary Baptist Honor Roll, where he and his family attend. He went to Fort Dix.

APPLES APLENTY

If apples seemed to be over-featured on the cafeteria menu at the Elementary School lunchroom, there was a reason. The Surplus Commodity Administration of the Federal Government decided it should move its stock of apples, so thirty-two bushels of them arrived at the school. Suddenly, the lunchroom menu, supervised by Mrs. Maybelle Drake, began to feature apple salads, brown-betty and apple sauce. A bushel basket also was placed in each classroom.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- to
- * Raymond P. Bilger--June 24 *
- * John Wallace Boice--June 24 *
- * Clarence L. Cooper--June 11 *
- * Paul S. Cutter, Jr.--June 27 *
- * Willis H. Green--June 17 *
- * Lloyd W. Hartman--June 22 *
- * Robert M. Moyer--June 27 *
- * Lester F. Nevins--June 2 *
- * Dorothy E. Stout--June 11 *
- * Vernon Temple--June 30 *
- * Orville A. Wyckoff--June 26 *

SAILING ORDERS CHANGED

Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless (Infantry) who came up from Texas expecting to be sent across the Atlantic, while his brother, Pvt. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) was due for departure from the Pacific Coast, encountered a change of orders. As a result, Tom also went to California and both now have APO numbers out of San Francisco.

LAD RETURNS

When Cpl. Edward H. Esche and his pals befriended a youngster in the Philippines, doctoring and feeding and clothing him, they really made a fast friend. In fact, the boy has "fastened" himself to their Signal Aircraft Warning Battalion. Ed writes: "We have taken him home a few times but he won't stay, so I guess the only thing we can do is to keep him until we move. He is no trouble to us as he is well now and he does a lot for us."

FORWARD STEP

Noteworthy progress was reported at the annual meeting of the Calvary Baptist Church congregation. The pastor, Raymond A. Gray, commented that "It is your love and your work and your giving which have made Calvary Church a strong organization--and a strong force for the Kingdom." As a forward step, a Board of Christian Education was created, to rank on an equal plane with the Deacons and Trustee boards. The new board will direct the educational program of the church in its various phases.

HIS MISTAKE

Didja' ever try to smoke a shaving brush? Well, Raymond W. Burd, MM2/c, now on Pacific duty, came terribly close to it once. It was while he was stationed at Norfolk. He and his pal, Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, and their wives, went into a restaurant and were having some fun, when Ray reached into his pocket for a cigarette. Not noticing exactly what he did, he brought out his shaving brush, which he was carrying with him, and struck a match. He began to bring them together, and then discovered his mistake. The hilarity that followed during the serving of the meal probably is still remembered by the waitresses and the other patrons in the restaurant.

HAPPY MEETING

It was "chow time" aboard ship and Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, and his ohum, Raymond W. Burd, MM2/c, were "throwing it down the hatch" when in walked Cpl. Edward H. Esche, who is serving with an Aircraft Warning Battalion. It was some surprise to see an old friend from Hopewell, and right then and there they began to talk over old times and more recent experiences. Ed was able to stay aboard ship all night and so the "confab" was resumed the next morning. Hill and Burd were more than delighted to think that they had come into port where a friend was able to trace them down.

SECRET WEAPON" DISCOVERED

Pfc. Orville A. Wyckoff belongs to an Armored Division that the Nazis twice claimed to have annihilated. "Some people can't understand how we can possibly be here," Orville writes, "but here we are." He feels that he got a "lucky break" in being assigned as he was, when he reached France. He also reports that a German soldier, captured by his outfit, revealed Hitler's "secret weapon." When asked about it, the prisoner reached into his pocket, pulled out a white handkerchief and said "This is it."

JOHNNY CROMWELL HEADS FOR CALIFORNIA

A/S John M. Cromwell is reported enroute to Shoemaker, California, where he is expected to get Pharmacist's Mate training. He had been at Sampson, N.Y., but had a visit back home after finishing Navy "boot" training. But "boot" wasn't so bad, as he spent part of his first four weeks in the Base Dance Orchestra, after which he had six weeks as a swimming instructor. He still found time to do over 120 hours of guard duty, though. He said that they made swimmers out of inexperienced fellows in three to five weeks. They also had to dive from a 16-foot tower, and the rule was that a fellow had to stay up there until he did dive. One fellow spent three days and three nights there, allowed down only long enough to go to "chow." Yes, he finally jumped. To Johnny, however, it was "nothing," for he is one of those who have taken a dive from the top of the high cliff at the Quarry Swimming pool.

BRIEF ITEMS AROUND TOWN

Flagstone has been placed in front of the Borough Honor Roll, improving the general appearance and removing a "raw" spot in the grass resulting from frequent visitors to that spot....The Fire Company finally got its safe opened. For two years or more, old records were locked up and the combination wouldn't work. However, an expert finally manipulated it successfully, after an earlier attempt had failed..... The Eagle Bakery now closes Tuesdays at 6, while Spencer Moore, who closes his grocery every Monday, says the plan works fine.....County road men swept away last Winter's anti-skidding gravel from Broad Street a few days ago....The Jack Terraults now have a goat--although it's really a kid.....Mr. and Mrs. C. Herbert Fetter have gone to California for the Summer months....Claire Morrell was married to Lieut. James Carter, formerly of Pennington, in a pretty ceremony at Calvary Baptist Church. It was the pastor's first church wedding since coming to Hopewell, although he (Pastor Gray) has married other couples during that time. Lieut. Carter was wounded overseas but expects to be out of the Army by the end of June. Claire is employed at the First-Mechanics National Bank, Trenton.....Cash and liquor vanished from Ziegler's restaurant property during a daylight visit by thieves while Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler were gone for the afternoon.....A midnight blaze destroyed a chicken coop on the old Snook farm up on the hill where the Farices now live, the flames being visible to nearly everyone in town.

Lieut. Harold Temple, doing duty with a Pacific Troop Carrier Air Squadron, is piloting a C-46. It is understood that during April he flew 22,000 miles. Indications are that he no longer is based in New Guinea. Harold agrees that "I have been quite busy lately." He says the heavier ship is swell with more horse-power. For recreation, a barbecue was held lately with several wild boars being cooked after they had been shot in the jungle. Some of the fellows were skeptical about eating the meat at first, but Harold found that it was tender and tasted O.K. He added that the news from Europe made excellent reading.

Dennis P. VanLiew, back in civilian life, has taken a job at Eastern Aircraft and is more than happy over his acceptance despite his army injury sustained shortly after he went into action in France.....B. Carl Hillman has advanced from Pfc. to T/5 in the Signal Aircraft Warning Service. He has been able to devote his weekly leave to a compositor's job on the Honolulu Advertiser, a daily, and says working conditions are ideal. With the "Stars and Stripes" moved there from Europe, he has hopes that a promised opportunity with the service newspaper really develops.

Donald C. Dilts is now a Corporal and was last reported in a U.S. hospital in England.....Cpl. Graham L. Benson has been thinking about their cabin up on the mountain and says that "Even those hard beds would feel like heaven." But stationed somewhere on Pacific Island duty with a Marine Aircraft Wing, prospects aren't so good. He says he is planning to make a band for his wrist-watch from a "hunk of Jap plane" to replace a leather one, which doesn't weather very well....Pvt. Paul A. Ashton, who is at Ellington Field, Texas, in the Army Air Corps, is affected by the decision not to start new Air Cadet classes, and expects re-assignment.

Pfo. Erwin W. Benson, of the Airborne Artillery, is now permitted to reveal that he is in a town on the Yonne River about 90 miles southeast of Paris, and situated on several small hills. He has been billeted in a chateau alongside the river. His outfit, he reports, was all set to go into combat a couple of times but General Patton's fast-moving spearheads "beat us to our objectives" and so plans for the use of the Airborne paratroopers were changed suddenly. Erwin said that business had taken him to Paris several times, but he had combined some sight-seeing with business.

Sgt. Leonard W. Vandewater (Infantry) who went deep into Germany, was so busy that a brief letter started one day was not finished until he had a few minutes to spare five days later. However, there came a better day and he writes: "Right now I am staying in a German house (May 2nd). After you haven't been able to wash for a couple of weeks, it feels good to get cleaned up. A house beats a fox-hole any day. It seems as if there is always two kitchens in every house so we have lots of things to cook with. Many a German chicken has been eaten by myself and the rest of the squad. Eating three hot meals a day instead of rations. There is a lot of beautiful country over here in Germany but it doesn't appeal to me when you have to fight for it."

Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland, shifted to the 15th Army, also changed jobs, becoming message center corporal and code clerk, rather than Battalion agent. So he gave up his jeep, but Norman says "it is good riddance." He says that when he reached Krehfeld on the Rhine, after the drive from the Reer, "the doughboys were just rounding up snipers and it was still a trifle warm but it didn't take those boys long to round up the few remaining Krauts."

T/Sgt. Wilbur L. Lowe wrote at the end of April that their job of maintaining combat equipment had almost ceased, but the big job at the moment was to keep the trucks rolling as they hauled supplies to the advance troops. For that, a 24-hour repair service was operated. He said that Belgium was a pleasant memory but it was a rush through Germany, "where a smile is anything but friendly".....S/Sgt. Clifford H. Leming, now stationed in Oklahoma at an Air Base, is engaged to Miss Marion L. James.....Pvt. William J. Ashton, who was at Camp Wheeler, Ga., is now in Kobraska,....George C. Kooppel, of the Naval Reserve Armed Guard, has shipped out of San Francisco on a new assignment.

Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr., who had been on Iwo Jima, wrote on April 29th that he was back to his former base, and that Aroh Adams, also in the Marines, was with him. While the spot is called a rest camp, Parvin said that "You do everything but rest and naturally we have another less dignified name for it." He added that he is in the only place on the island where "it turns from mud to dust, and from dust to mud in exactly 30 minutes" and also that "It can be pouring and the sun will be shining for all its worth."

Pvt. Thomas F. Posal, classified as a replacement, has been assigned to the Fifth Marine Division.....Pvt. Charles A. Bregonzor, now with the Engineers, has an APO out of New York.....Raymond P. Bilger, S/Co (RM) has been assigned to LSM duty and is APOed out of New York.....Commander Herbert B. Butcher, U.S.N.R., has been stationed at Notre Dame since his return from overseas.....Stephen Woolston went to Wilmington, Del. to be assigned aboard ship.

Fred A. Larmon, S2/c, who was in Boston, now has an LST address out of New York. His brother-in-law, Cpl. Archibald R. Dey, has been in Czechoslovakia, his Armored F.A. Battalion shifting there from Germany...George J. Myers, now a CSK, is on Guam where he tries to see any Hopewell fellows who arrive there. He has been on the island over 10 months.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

William A. Stout, (Sp5(A)1c) who is assigned to the Physical Rehabilitation Department at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., is playing in the Station Dance Band as a trumpeter....George A. Housel, is now rated as a T/5 and on duty with an AAA (A/W) Battalion in the Pacific war zone....Rayford Adams, son of Dr. and Mrs. Adams, of State Village, has won a Marine Commission and moved to Camp Pendleton, Cal., with expectations of returning to the Pacific area.....Pfc. William Johnson is living in University buildings in a city on the Rhine, and since his address has been less inclined to change of late, his mail has been catching up with him, including a Christmas holiday package.

Sidney C. Lutz, advanced to S1/c, has reported back to California after a visit home. He has been in the Navy since last August, going to Sampson, N.Y., then transferring to the Seabees with further training at Camp Rousseau, Cal. and Camp Parks, Cal. He has returned to Camp Rousseau....James Adams recently was seen in a picture printed in "Life" showing the Ninth Army "Rallsplitters."....His younger brother, Richard, has completed training for Merchant Marine service, while Donald Cray, a brother-in-law, has been serving in Mech. Cavalry Reconnaissance with the Third Army.

Cpl. S. H. "Bucky" Runyon, writing on April 25th from "Somewhere West of the Rhine" in Germany, said: "As you know, things have been moving quite fast over here. One thing that makes us quite proud is the fact that our regiment was the first Infantry outfit to cross the Rhine. Yes, the Rhine, and I remember reading about it in school. It doesn't make me any happier to have seen it, though. There is one thing that pleases me quite some, and that is the new German flag. Perhaps you have heard of it--it is white. We are beginning to believe that every day is Flag Day, as we see so many of them....We are back for a rest now so things are a little different. We are billeted, eating regular meals and resting. For the past week we have enjoyed several luxuries, the most important being real fried eggs, electric lights and a radio."

S/Sgt. Thomas Wilson wrote from Germany on May 2nd; "After over four months of almost continuous duty on the line, our Division (63rd Blood and Fire) was finally relieved. We (Infantry) are now in a rest area far behind the actual fighting. We entered the line Dec. 22nd and fought in the Alsace-Lorraine push of the Jerries in December and January. Our outfit was the first of the Seventh Army to enter Germany and the first to completely breach the Siegfried Line. We have made crossings on the Saar, Rhine and Danube, Germany is a mighty beautiful country. It makes one wonder why they continually wage war on neighboring countries instead of enjoying their own homeland. As every doughboy can tell you, the infantry is a rough life and we'll all be happy when we can call it finished and head for the good old U.S.A."

Herbert E. Wilson, S2/c (Rdm) writes from aboard ship; "I have been doing quite some traveling. It will probably be quite a while before I'll see the States as I seem to be working my way gradually closer to Japan.....Pfc. Anton Holstrom, with a S.A.W. Bn. in Germany, wrote on May 4th; "We have really been on the move but we always managed to have a swell camp set-up. Near our camp now is a big bunch of English soldiers who were freed some time ago and are waiting to go home. Most of them were prisoners since Dunkirk.".....Lieut. F. Donald Selbie, Jr. has just transferred from India to the Mariana Islands, being with a Bomb Group. He hopes to see his brother-in-law, Lieut. Fred D. Boice, Jr. who is in the same island group with a Combat Camera Unit, after being on Iwo Jima and Okinawa."

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

With meat rather scarce these days, folks really flocked to the turkey-ham cafeteria supper held in Calvary Baptist Church on May 26th. But the committee, headed by Miss Allena Arnold, had prepared for a crowd. More than 250 were fed, it is estimated and a nice sum raised for the Ladies' Aid Society. The helpers in the kitchen and dining room were worn out, when the last patron had been fed and everything set to rights--so tired that Miss Ella Hullfish and Mrs. I. Clifford Higgins almost went home wearing each other's coats....Pastor Gray worked until 3 A. M. recently to produce an issue of the church paper, "The Torch" in time for the recent annual meeting.A fine talk on missionary work in Burma was given recently before the Missionary Society by Miss Marian Shivers, of Trenton, who returns to that field this Summer. She also spoke at a covered-dish supper for World Wide Guild girls, and then pitched in to help dry the dishes....Preparations are being made to celebrate Mr. Gray's first Anniversary of his arrival in Hopewell, this coming Sunday, June 3rd.

SPONSORS

All who read the "News" are indebted to thoughtful friends who underwrite the cost of materials. Recent contributors are: Hervey S. Hall, Mrs. Joseph Cronce, Mrs. Fred Blackwell, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Hurley, Postmaster Merritt J. McAlinden, Mrs. Walter Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Blackwell, Mrs. Missel, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Houder, Mrs. Russell C. Servis and Mrs. Elijah Allen.

IN CLOSING

Mary a joke in this issue, and hardly room enough to crowd in all the news. However, jokes often are "a dime a dozen" so news has been given the preference. But about addresses, be sure to let me know of any changes. Be seeing you again--in about three weeks. Meanwhile, write when you can. Best of luck.
(67 N. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.)

DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor

Hopewell News

— Dean H. Ashton, Editor —

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40th Issue

HOME AGAIN

Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe, Jr. is home again--to the luxurious comfort of his own bed, food cooked as only "Mom" can cook it and the warm welcome of relatives, friends and neighbors. His five months in Nazi prison camps and as a captive laborer are now behind him, while his 73-day furlough is just getting underway. He is in good spirits, looks good although he has lost a little and says he didn't fare too badly.

After word arrived on May 21st that he was safe and waiting near LeHavre, France, for ocean passage, his Father and Mother were greatly relieved. However, he remained there nearly a month from the time of writing, but his long-awaited phone call came last Wednesday, June 13th. He was at Camp Kilmer, in good old New Jersey, but was moved to Fort Dix before being furloughed last Friday afternoon. His folks met him in Trenton--and after that, "Hokey" decided he was "sittin' pretty." It happened that his uncle, Edgar Blackwell, was being honored on his wedding anniversary that night, so "Hokey" went right along and had a chance to greet a lot of relatives forthwith.

But still he was anxious to feel that he was right back in Hopewell--and eager to see his chum, Pvt. Orville Carkhuff, home from Camp Wheeler, Ga. and due to start back early the next morning for Fort Geo. Meade, Md. So they got together, and had quite a talk until after midnight. Then "Hokey" sat with his parents until after 2 A.M. He was onger for news, for not a letter from home had reached him during those five months nor the weeks intervening before he reached home.

"Hokey" said his capture occurred Dec. 11th after his outfit had been ordered to enter a town almost surrounded by Nazi troops. They were overwhelmed, this being about a week before the last big German push began. However, "Hokey" and a pal hid in a haystack until nightfall. Then a farmer came for hay and unaware that he had visitors, "forked" Hokey's hat off his head. Then the pair came out and were told to surrender to avoid trouble. The next month was hard going, spent in the first of three prison camps. Then he was moved to Stalag 7-A and later to Stalag 7-B, 40 miles from Munich and near Lake Constance. They were used as laborers, much of the time in Munich. "Hokey" said he helped to clear debris from Hitler's "Hofbrauhaus", where the Nazi party was founded. He also worked on the wreckage of the Munich City Hall, Post Office and Munichbank, cleaning brick, etc. Later, they worked on the damaged railroads, "and the American bombers were making plenty of work for us," he added. Most of the time, they rode to Munich in box-cars, leaving camp at 4 A.M. and getting back at 9 P.M. Food was mostly a potato diet, while bread was hard with sawdust in it.

Rod Cross packages were a Godsend, he says, but the contents were pooled. Cigarettes were divided equally as they served as "money" in bribing guards and getting a little extra food in town. But the day of liberation was coming. When the Yankee tanks rumbled into the camp, the Nazi guards were standing at attention, wearing Rod Cross armbands with their rifles stacked in the barracks. It was a great day for the erstwhile prisoners. "C" rations were brought in, and later planes carried them to Reims, France, where real food was made available and excellent treatment provided.

Now that it's over, "Hokey" is back in the groove, driving his Dad's car around town, and by Monday night, 72 hours after getting home, he was out assisting David Bellis on a surveying job, work that he used to do before he went into the Army.

OTHER ARRIVALS

Lt. Kenneth R. Burroughs returned from England, after 34 bombing missions over Germany, on May 28th. He flew back when the Eighth Air Force winged Westward over the Atlantic. He wears four oak-leaf clusters on his Air Medal ribbon, as well as a Purple Unit citation. "It's sure great to be back," he commented. But soon he was enroute to Houston, Texas, to see the girl to whom he is engaged. Ken thinks he may remain in the States, although even his ETO ribbon with three battle stars doesn't guarantee that.

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry), who spent many weeks in two hospitals in France due to frozen foot, has just finished his 15-day furlough at home, and now is at Camp Upton, L.I. His foot remain quite tender and he plans to take some special studies, expecting to be there for a couple of months. . . . Sgt. John W. Dilts (Fighter Squadron) is home from Burma on furlough with 119 points to his credit, but he is uncertain about getting his discharge, although he also spent many months previously on a Pacific island outpost. . . . Pfc. Robert O. Lawson (Aviation Signal Company), husband of Mrs. Margaret Lawson, of the school faculty, also has arrived after being in New Guinea, etc. for three years. . . . Sgt. James Mocnan (Bomb Squadron) also is back, with 14 months' overseas service, largely in the Italian campaign.

ONE-ENGINE RETURN

First Lieut. Harold Temple, who is based in New Guinea with a Troop Carrier squadron, recently put in some anxious moments when one of the engines of his plane went "dead" when he was half-way across the Coral Sea (over 500 miles wide at some points). "That was an experience I will never forget," he told his parents. "The plane had a full load, so we had to throw most of it off and made it in on one engine. That's one time I was really praying and my prayers were answered, too. My crew certainly regretted throwing over a case of beer." Harold also reported concerning one of his trips to a native settlement in the Mountains of Guinea. For a landing field, only a short grass strip is provided but it makes it possible to haul supplies to the natives, who give vegetables in payment. He writes:

"The place is down in a valley but is still 5,500 feet high, so the climate seems to be about like that in the States. The Aussies went back there and semi-civilized them. They wear headdress, bones through their noses, etc. When we cut the engines after taxiing up, they all swooped up to the plane, hollering like Indians in the movies. It makes you wonder at first whether it's safe to get out. They wear very little clothing and it's nothing to see a woman nursing a pig, so you can see they are quite primitive yet. Some of the men are used as police in breaking up wars between other tribes, and in keeping trouble-makers out of the valley."

ADMIRING THE ROBE UNTIL--

Mrs. Shirley Selbie Boice received a package from her husband, who has been on Okinawa and Iwo Jima, as well as over Tokyo with a Combat Camera Unit. She found upon opening it that it contained an attractive robe. It arrived around Mother's Day and so Mrs. Boice concluded that it was a gift, and her husband very thoughtful. For about a week, she wore it as a house-coat. Then came a letter from her husband, in which he said he had mailed to her a Japanese ceremonial robe, of the type in which the pilots of Japanese suicide planes are attired before they set out on their last missions. That was too much for Mrs. Boice. She hasn't been wearing the robe since.

Pictures received from her husband show that he is now wearing Captain's bars. Mrs. Boice, who has been teaching Seventh Grade in the Elementary School, is now en-route to Wyoming to resume ranch life, hoping that Capt. Boice will be able to return before many months to be with her and their son, Fred, Jr.

BAKERY BEING RENOVATED

The Eagle Bakery is still suffering from the effects of the disastrous fire that occurred at 6 P.M. on Memorial Day. Likewise, the Scout Troop #26, whose quarters were leveled by the blaze, have adopted make-shift plans in order to continue their activities. Also, it's no secret that some folks who live in the vicinity lost little time in getting their War Bonds into the bank, the scare being enough to compel action.

The baking equipment could have been restored to usefulness quickly, but the fire had swept the storeroom overhead, some of the materials falling to the ground floor. Under the circumstances, baking has been postponed until repairs are completed. For a number of days, the bake-shop store closed daily at 6 P.M. because electric current was lacking. But now the red-and-blue lights between the bakery and the West Broad Street corner twinkle again, and the ice cream parlor-luncheonette is open for business. The refuse from the structure in which the Scouts met and stored their salvaged newspapers was quickly cleared away. The cause of the fire remains unknown.

Needing a meeting place, the Scouts received offers from two churches, as well as the use of a couple of cellars and several homes. They accepted the offer of Harry Hall and have found his cellar, equipped as a playroom, is quite O.K. Meanwhile, the Troop and Troop Committee are happy over the fact that their recent drive for funds to obtain more suitable quarters was held. A total of \$645.06 was raised, although the goal was \$500. Plans remain to be perfected. Borough Council has offered the former Air Raid observation building at the Reservoir to the Scouts, with the thought that it will be moved to some other location. Early reports that the Troop's new flags were safely elsewhere at the time of the fire proved to be incorrect, and a set of recently-purchased emblems were included in the Scouts' losses.

OWLS GIVE TROUBLE

Residents in the Princeton-Columbia avenue neighborhood are hoping that the owls are going to cut out their eccentric behavior of recent weeks. Shotguns were brought out after owls had swooped down from the trees and knocked off Mrs. Scott Da nsberry, Sr.'s glasses and alarmed others who ventured outdoors around dusk. It is believed that old birds were acting that way with the idea that they were defending younger birds. Van Schomp is reported as one of those who had to fight off one of the owls. The neighborhood had a similar experience last year--in fact the story goes that Lafayette Stroot had like trouble--so much so that some women put a dishpan over their heads until they had passed beyond the danger zone.

RAINY WEATHER

It's rained so much in recent weeks that--well, Harry Cox stopped out to lower the barber-shop awning. He called to Alvah Voorhoes, who was nearby: "Bot a cigar it rains within 10 minutes." Voorhoes replied: "Right." Then Cox called: "You see--it's beginning to rain right now!" And it was.

FAST TRIPS TO PACIFIC COAST

After the phone rings at 6.15 A.M. and you hear your husband's voice on the other end of the wire for the first time in 15 months, it's time for action. That's what Ina Conover Hill, wife of Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, decided after he had called her from Portland, Oregon, on June 14th. Less than 36 hours later, she was aboard an express headed Westward. Accompanying her was Mrs. Raymond W. Burd, whose husband is an MM2/c on the same ship with Hill. They anticipate that they will get leave about the end of July and expect to come Eastward then. Their vessel, a troop-carrier and attack ship, has figured in numerous invasion operations, including Iwo Jima and Okinawa and the China Sea engagement.

Recently, Capt. John H. Winant, husband of Mrs. Margaret Haynes Winant, of Skillman, also had word that he was on the Pacific Coast. It was uncertain whether he would be there more than a few days, but she left promptly for Seattle, Wash.

TRIES A MINERAL BATH

Being stationed in the historic German city of Aachen, noted for its health baths in pre-war days, Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland decided that he should indulge. The city itself was a critical defense point of the Nazis during the drive that ended the war, therefore the city "is now only a pile of rubble and bare walls and shells of buildings," Hoagland reports. The large building where the natural hot sulphur baths are "is just a pile of destroyed masonry but the baths, being in the cellar, were undamaged," he further writes, so the Army ordered German civilians to clean them up. Soldiers have the use of the baths, with civilians to keep the place clean. He continues:

"The water is naturally steaming hot and the tubs that they have are immense. They resemble a baptistry, because you walk down steps into them and also can sit down in them. I sure did lavish in the luxury of it when I went over there last evening. I had the water up to my waist when I stood up and after a good scrubbing, I sat down and the water came right up to my chin. I just sat there and soaked for about three quarters of an hour. When I came out, I felt like an old wash-rag. The sulphur water and the heat of the water had drained the strength all out of me."

His duties now consist of work in code communications, connected with the military government of the city and district of Aachen. He encodes and decodes messages, and is on temporary detached service from his outfit, which is doing security guard duty. They are still in the dark, he says, as to whether they will remain as occupation troops or be re-deployed to the U.S. destined for the CBI area. However, many in his outfit have 85 or more points, he adds, but his point score is 46!

COMPLETES FIRST YEAR

Marking the end of his first pastoral year in Hopewell, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, of Calvary Baptist Church, preached on June 3rd on "Courage Through Saints." He gave some of his "first year" impressions, against the background of Paul's account of being met by members of the Christian church established at Rome who "came to meet us, ..whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage." He said in part:

"Few exist who do not thrill to the story of the great saints of the church. Their sacrifices, devotion and high ideals help us to know that certain things can be borne and have been borne with courage....Yet far more saints should come from that innumerable company of those who make up the membership of Christ's church. To call them saints is to give honor where honor is due, yet if confronted with the idea of sainthood, they would be the first to deny it, saying they were only trying to live lives as much like the Master's as possible. They are the saints that make a community and the world a great place in which to live.

"Why is it that the greeting of fellow Christians meant so much to the Apostle Paul? Because he saw in this Christian Church the power to change the hearts and motives of men. The spirit of Christian love and brotherliness was present, the disciples had one common purpose, one source of power, one common allegiance. They were brothers, each making his contribution to the spread of the Christian gospel.

"Just a year ago there came to Calvary Baptist Church a young minister who having worked in the church for a year, has seen the high regard in which members hold one another, the spirit of brotherliness, friendliness and the desire to be of service to the Kingdom of the Master; so the young minister has thanked God and had courage.

"Paul knew that the Christian church was not a flimsy institution with its foundation in sand, but that the church was going to do God's work. He knew some of those people and knew they could absolutely be depended upon. Oh, yes, some of them 'washed out' as they do in any church, but Paul knew that he would not have to pull the heavy load alone....Likewise, the young minister who came to Hopewell began to understand that this was a church with people on whom he could depend to do the work of God....While the young minister has not accomplished all that he hoped to do, you have constantly upheld his hand, given confidence and hope and you have done a great many kindly things that melt the heart of a minister and his wife and make them feel humble indeed.

".....If within your heart you know you have not been one of those who have helped to propagate a spirit of oneness, withhold the human appeal one for another, or if you know that Christ cannot be seen through your own life, I challenge you to become that kind of a church member."

BELLS OF VICTORY

As long as Pfc. Erwin W. Benson lives, he probably will remember the church bells he heard tolling in France at midnight of V-E Day, and remember the way the French people in his area celebrated. His account follows, written May 8th.

"I know we are all happy that the war in Europe is over. The French are making a real occasion of it, celebrating more than we do on Fourth of July. All the cities, towns, villages and homes are decorated with bunting and flags of every Allied nation. Last night at 12 o'clock when the fighting officially ceased, I could hear church bells tolling in all the towns around the camp.

"Last night I went out on pass for a while to one of the neighboring towns and found myself in the middle of a carnival. I believe every person from two years of age to 90 was firing rockets, flares and firecrackers galore. Getting under the influence of all the gaiety, I bolstered up my nerve (He's a paratrooper!) and went for a couple of rides on the bumper-scooters and caterpillar. It took me back to younger days. It seems I can never get too old for those amusements. Coming back, I had to detour a few times as the streets were filled with couples dancing to gay French music. Also coming back, I glanced at the sky and was amazed to see a large 'V', made by two searchlights. It was a beautiful night and a wonderful sight.

"I guess the French are entitled to a gay time as they have had a pretty rough go of it for the last five years and it isn't all over yet, as a lot of them are homeless."

SURROUNDED FOR THREE DAYS

A recent article in "Stars and Stripes" described how a Tank Destroyer Battalion, in which Hosea Hopkins, T/4, was serving as a part of the 78th Lightning Division, was surrounded for three days, but succeeded in ousting VonRunstedt's Mark IV, V and VI tanks. Hopkins has been in the Army 16 to 18 years and Cpl. Stanley "Bucky" Runyon, found that they were in the same Division. Hopkins' battalion crossed the Roer River on Feb. 28, establishing a bridgehead on the east bank. Then in six days they moved 35 miles to the Rhine, taking 46 towns, over 1,500 prisoners and equipment. Then they seized five bridges over the Ahr River and assisted in scaling off large groups of enemy troops. Then "Lightning" Infantry crossed the Rhine on the night of March 7-8 and won commendation from Maj. General E.P. Parker, Jr., Commander, for being the first Infantry Division to cross. In the the Normandy invasion, the same Tank Destroyer Battalion had been with the 4th Infantry Division, and later with the 22nd before joining the 78th. Their capture of the Schwammenauel Dam was credited with having been a big factor in the opening of the way to the Rhine.

Describing how a Tank Destroyer Battalion operates, a writer in "Stars and Stripes" said: "As tank warriors, I don't think there are any better soldiers. Each one is a 'little Patton.' The Germans may have bigger and heavier tanks and they have more firepower. We had no guns to match the 88's mounted on the monstrous Tigers. But the boys of the Tank Destroyer battalions overcame the superior German firepower with their greater mobility and agility. They chose their positions and camouflaged them so expertly that they caught the Germans in traps time and again."

AWARDED AIR MEDAL

Colin A. McBurney, who is with a Bomb Squadron and understood to be based in the Mariana Islands of the Pacific, has been advanced from Corporal to Sergeant--and better yet, has been awarded the Air Medal. This is given for meritorious achievement on six or more missions. His raids are known to have included trips over Japan. On June 2nd, Colin found that Homer Bruno (Navy) was waiting to see him. Colin spent a day on Bruno's ship and they really talked over old times.

YOUR BIRTHDAY MISSED?

If you're having a birthday before long and your name isn't included in the list over there to the right, the oversight is not intentional.

We've been trying to obtain the birthdays of all Hopewell fellows who are in the Armed Forces but the list isn't entirely complete. And the correct time to insert each one is a tough job in itself, since this publication "goes to press" every three weeks. The perfect plan would have the greetings arrive exactly on each fellow's birthday--but try and do it! So, with Navy men constantly on the move, Army fellows being shifted all over the globe and mail delivery uncertain, at best, in war times, we're just doing the best we can.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- to
- James Adams--July 7
- Ira Allen--July 20
- Paul A. Ashton--June 25.
- Richard P. Embley--July 6
- Clarence R. Habeeb--July 20
- Hosea Hopkins--July 27
- Archibald Litzen--July 3
- William G. Lowe--July 26
- Merritt McAlinden, Jr.--July 19
- John E. McCracken--July 28
- Fred W. MacNeil--June 29
- J. R. Pierson--July 21
- David L. Powell--July 16
- George F. Rightmire--July 30
- Edwin T. Sheppard--June 24
- Thomas I. Wilson--July 29

FRANK BUCK IN TOWN

(5)

Frank Buck, big-game hunter and author of "Bring 'Em Back Alive" fame, has been in Hopewell on several occasions lately. He and his wife have been visiting the Nelsons at Mount Rose, with Buck coming to Hopewell for train connections to New York. Getting acquainted with Mr. Carballal, taxi operator, Frank Buck paid a visit to the Carballal's store on Railroad Place and told some of his experiences to the children, and gave his autograph.

GRADUATION DAYS

Thirty pupils were graduated from the Elementary School last Wednesday night. On the previous Sunday evening, a baccalaureate service for the class was held in Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. Raymond A. Gray, pastor, speaking on "Kings In Hiding." At the graduation ceremonies, David R. Bellis and Mary Ann Cataldo received Legion awards as being outstanding in the class. The graduates offered a program that included papers on "Our Pan-American Neighbors" and a Brazilian woman, Mrs. Bernadette Neves, was the chief speaker.

Few in the audience were aware that lightning during a shower earlier in the evening had hit the chimney on the Elementary School. The damage was confined chiefly to the chimney.

PHILLIPS FINALLY GETS ABOARD AGAIN

George O. Phillips, SFL/c, probably fretted a lot while he was in a Navy Hospital in Honolulu. He was under observation because of a back ailment, possibly traceable to a mishap last Fall when a bus on which he was returning to his base, was in a collision. At the time, Phillips was thrown against a seat.

Released recently from the hospital without nothing found that was seriously wrong, Phillips was eager to get back aboard ship. He had been trying to get sea duty for months before the order finally came through, and then the hospital trip had to interrupt. But he was to encounter further delays. He went to go aboard his ship but discovered to his dismay that he had missed it by two hours. He waited. Again, he received instructions and when he carried them out, he found that he had missed his ship again, this time by seven hours. So he waited and waited. Learning that his ship was nearby, even before the Yeoman in charge of his reassignment knew of it, Phillips asked to have orders come through and this time he landed safely aboard. He writes that the sunsets on the Pacific are unlike those at home, as it seems to go almost immediately from daylight to darkness.

EARN'S DISCHARGE

Sgt. Frank P. Jones, of Mount Rose, who recently was furloughed from India and China after being out there about 30 months, is to receive his honorable discharge, it is reported. He was with an Air Cargo Resupply Group that won numerous honors.

SPONSORS

Nearly every letter received from a fellow in the service expresses gratitude for the assistance given by those whose contributions underwrite the cost of materials for the "Hopewell News." Those who have helped recently are: Mrs. Robert Bland, Mrs. Leslie Gray, Mrs. Florence Bellis, Mrs. Anna Carballal, Mrs. Malcolm Sheldrick, Mr. Reynold Dansberry, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Stout, Mrs. Parvin R. Stryker, Mrs. Walter Sinclair, Mrs. Robert McBurney, Mrs. Fannie Holstrom and Mrs. Orville Carkhuff.

ENCOUNTERS FRIEND--AND JAP PROPAGANDA

Herbert E. Wilson, S2/c (ADM), who headed for the Pacific fairly recently, had the good luck to locate W. Theodore Sinclair, who is out there on an APD. They spent some time together aboard the latter's ship. Wilson has also "met up" with Japanese radio propaganda, and this is what he has to say about that:

"We listen daily to the Jap short-wave broadcasts in English from Tokyo. Their announcers, who speak excellent English, remind me of the German propaganda broadcasters who claimed Germany was winning the war to the very day they had to take flight, from the onrushing guns of our troops. As usual, these Japs are hard to understand. In one breath, they calmly claim that our war efforts aren't even bothering them, and ho-hum, we Yankees are just wasting our time. But, in the next breath, the very same announcer reports that so many American bombers have just bombed Nagoya or Tokyo and that no damage was done, that all fires had been extinguished by dark, that civilian rehabilitation in Tokyo was progressing satisfactorily, that burned-out areas are now being converted to farms, and that factories are now being moved underground. With a twist of the dial we get the American news version from San Francisco, and it is very encouraging to hear the eye-witness account of Private Joe Doakes who was tail-gunner in the last Superfort to leave Tokyo.".....Wilson also wrote: "When people say the Pacific ocean is big, they aren't kidding. Since it has taken so long to get where we are now, and at good speed too, I have been thinking that it is going to take an awful long time to re-trace our steps back to the States, once the Japs are beaten to their knees and 'V-J' Day is officially proclaimed."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Science doesn't explain how a mosquito can get along without sleep.

(6)
WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pfo. Harry J. Errickson (Armored Field Artillery) says it's good to live in a house for a change. He is now at St. Martin, a small village near the Danube River. He is taking three courses of study when not answering radio calls. In his spare time he has gone deer-hunting and shot four. They are fairly plentiful and there is no closed season. He also expects to do some fishing.

Sgt. Leonard W. Vandewater finds that Army life has changed his appetite a lot. Army rations during the offensive across Germany had a lot to do with it. Before he entered the service, it was a different story. On his last visit home, his Mother asked him if he'd like some deer meat that she had saved for him. He said he'd prefer eggs. So she cooked half a dozen and Leonard ate them--and then the deer meat. He was still hungry, so his Mother fried three more eggs for him.

Pfo. George S. Knudsen (Engineers) writes from Germany: "V-E Day has come and gone but it was just another day for us here as we expected it for some time. The way we had Jerry on the run I could see it wouldn't be far off. We were in the vicinity of Munich in the last stage of the fight. Was able to see the Bavarian Alps and boy--was there snow on the mountains. Brrrr, I can still feel the cold air....The Army is giving several educational courses for us now and I'm going to take advantage of it. School was always something I liked. My folks died when I was quite young and I was not able to get as much as I wanted at the time. But watch out now!....I've added up my points for discharge and I find I'm short just two. Just one more month overseas and it would have done it."

Parvin R. Stryker, Jr. (Marines) is now a Corporal and has been transferred to the Intelligence Division of his Battalion. He has been undergoing some special schooling and field work, followed by a five-day furlough. Parvin previously had been in the Iwo Jima conquest.

Cpl. John W. Flagg, who is with an Army Fighter Squadron on Iwo Jima, says: "Tell Parvin Stryker that he wouldn't know the island now. Everything is changed.... I see where a lot of the Hopewell boys are getting in this war over here, now that the war in Europe is over. The war over there didn't bother us much by ending. We just bore down on the Japs that much harder so we can get home soon also. We didn't even have a celebration. We worked on our planes hard all that day so they could go over Tokyo again."

Pfo. Wilbur U. Hurley, writes from China where he is with a Bomb Squadron (May 18th): "That was great news coming from Europe and I hope it soon comes from this area too. Won't that be heaven! Weather is nice here, swimming every day if you like. Lots of nice clear lakes, and lots of mountains for hiking and hunting. They keep us pretty busy, though, and it's better that way." Wilbur is with the famed "Flying Tiger" outfit, and incidentally has always been in the Army Air Corps, and not in anti-aircraft as previously mentioned.

Sgt. Robert L. Burd, (Signal Construction Company) writes: "I can't say where I am now but I can say that I helped break old Tojo's back on Leyte....The closest I have come to seeing anyone I knew was when I missed my brother by one day. I sure would like to meet some of the boys but I'd rather meet them all in good old Hopewell."

Fred W. Macneil, SK1/c with the Pacific fleet, is married, his bride being Miss Mary Elizabeth Hildebrand, of Portland, Oregon.....Captain John Ginter (Army Air Corps chaplain) is expected home from Perrin Field, Texas, in time to see his son, Jack, graduate from Princeton High. Jack expects to go into the service soon, and is hoping he gets a Navy call, having passed the tests.

Raymond L. Otis (Marine Corps) has been taking final exams in V-12 at Colgate College, Hamilton, N.Y. He comments that the account of the Memorial Day parade reminded him of the time when he and Jack VanLieu and John Dilts cleaned the grease off the 45-70 rifles (carried by the color guard) when the rifles first arrived in town some years back. He added: "We sure were proud kids when they let us be in a firing squad down at Blawenburg. Guess those old blunderbusses were bigger than we were."

Pfo. John "Jack" F. VanLieu now rates three battle stars, it has been learned. He is in China with a Combat Cargo Group.....Coxswain John F. Corcoran has been back to the Model Apartments to spend a 15-day furlough with his wife and child, reporting back to San Bruno Cal. expecting to rejoin his unit, which already has gone out..... Pfo. James Bregenzer was home from Sheppard Field, Texas, on a hurried visit of a few hours, but failed to see his brother, Joseph Bregenzer, S1/c, of the Pacific Fleet, who did not return home until a couple of days later.....Pvt. William R. Bodino, who also is at Sheppard Field, Texas, has qualified as an expert marksman, while taking "basic" with the AAF.....Lieut. (j.g.) Charles "Doc" Wyckoff, is now serving on an IST somewhere out on the Pacific....Charles A. Hausbauer (Sp 1)1/c, is now stationed at Hawaii and is hoping to locate "Ken" Hullfish soon.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Pvt. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) is now on the island of Oahu, in the Hawaiian group. He went there recently after taking special radio work at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. . . . Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Infantry) found upon rejoining his company after receiving care for shrapnel wounds, that he was one of three in his squad of twelve who had survived. His latest letter said he was stationed at Wertheim, a town that showed few signs of war, but he expected to be moved soon. Meanwhile, he and three other fellows are living in an apartment. "The best part of it is the bathtub," Garrett says, "with hot and cold water, and next best is a comfortable bed." Going for a walk (1) he and a buddy found some ripe strawberries, then wished they had some cake and whipped cream to go with the berries. He was hoping to dig up some fishing tackle, as a river on the edge of town looked promising. Meanwhile, his wife has received the Purple Heart awarded to Garrett, it being forwarded through the Red Cross from overseas. . . . Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard, Army Nurse, who was at Marseilles, France; vacationing on the French Riviera; had seen Cannes and Nice, and some time ago was in Paris. She anticipates being transferred to a new area of activity, after being thru the North Africa, Italy and Southern France campaigns.

Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew has been with his Army band from Fort Jackson, S.C. thru New York State assisting with the Seventh War Loan campaign rallies. . . . Pfc. Anton C. Holstrom (S.A.W. Bn.) is doing Radar work in Germany. He has been overseas about 18 months and now has passed the physical for possible transfer to Asia. He was in the Army a year before being sent across.

John M. Cromwell, S2/c is now taking a 16-weeks course of study at the U.S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, Cal., leading up to a rating as Pharmacist's Mate. . . . Cpl. Julius Yuhas (Marine Bombing Squadron) states that a family "out there" has taken a liking to him and insist upon him spending Sunday dinner with them every week. He reported to his wife, the former Marie Lake, that "it's sumthin" the way they dress up the table for the occasion. . . . Sidney C. Lutz, S1/c, (Seabees) has set out from California for parts unknown. . . . Commander Herbert Butcher, mentioned heretofore in error as being at Notre Dame, is out of the country.

Pvt. John B. Kirby, with the Italian and French campaigns behind him, has six battle stars and 90 points, but having enlisted, is not due for discharge. He is at present in East Prussia, near the city of Danzig. . . . Pfc. Joseph Muredda (Infantry) states: "Everything is going swell here (Germany, May 31). The change from combat life to garrison life is just what everyone needed. At present, we are acting as part of the occupational force in Germany, also keeping our fingers crossed that we've seen our last of combat. Our division is occupying the city of Bremen, its port and the surrounding area. Bremen may have been a fairly nice city at one time, but now that's a thing of the past. The bombing raids have really left their marks here. . . . Imagine you are familiar with the Army point system. We have a few of those lucky 85ers and more. Seven from our company have left already and those guys weren't sober for a week. I just don't make the grade yet but I imagine I can sweat it out a little longer now."

Pfc. James H. Hall, in a letter written before V-E Day but delayed enroute, writes concerning his Armored Infantry Battalion: "The Third Army has been going along very fast, and the Germans are going faster--of course, backward. I was in the Infantry but now I am in Armored Infantry, which is not walking, and I call that a break. We travel in what is called a half-track and are in front of the foot Infantry, in most cases. Lately we met light resistance most of the time. But once in a while we are slowed down to a stop, until we can get started with our Air Corps again. Many of the Jerries say they have waited days for us to come get them. I am glad I got into this outfit as it is a good one and has a very good commander. We have quite a few records already and by the end of the war, which I think is close, should have more. We were the first of the Third Army to cross into Germany--and I hope the first to go home."

Vernon I. Temple, MM3/c who has been on Pacific sea duty so long that he has almost lost count on the trips, is expected in Hopewell on furlough any day now. . . . T/5 George A. Housel, who was in the Marshall Islands with an AW Battalion, is now in Hawaii, and hoping to come home soon, as he has 87 points to his credit. However, he must wait until he is replaced, but that will be sometime later as he says lots of others are ahead of him.

George J. Myers, Jr., CSK in the Navy, who is in the Marianas, estimates that the Navy has provided him with 175,000 miles of "fairly interesting travel." Enlisting back in July, 1942, he made his initial trip aboard a fleet tanker in time for the African invasion. He re-crossed the Atlantic many times, visiting numerous foreign ports. "Even Norfolk looked good after those trips," he declares. But after a couple of years, orders came to proceed to the Pacific. He adds: "After a bit of travelling around on this pond, I was transferred to Pearl Harbor for further transfer to an advance base. Arrived on the Marianas Island in December, 1944, and a welcome change from the last. Since being here, I fortunately obtained my Chief Petty Officer's rating." He adds that his work is very interesting, and enjoys excellent food, comfortable quarters, movies and stage shows."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Get a gossip wound up and she will run somebody down.

CHURCH DOINGS

Preparations are under way to provide a Community Vacation Church School for the youngsters, 4 through 12 years of age. It is hoped to repeat the success of last year's school when over 100 attended. Teachers are being recruited to supervise the Bible study, handwork and recreation features. It will run from July 9th to 20th, on a five-day schedule for the two weeks.

Churches held special Children's Day programs, with the usual complications in respect to rehearsals, etc. For example, one youngster came to the Calvary Baptist rehearsal one afternoon carrying a live sparrow in his hands.....

Thirty-two persons from the Baptist Church attended the annual meeting of Central Baptist Association at Flemington, again having the distinction of being the best represented church.....The turkey supper held in Calvary Baptist Church on May 26th yielded a profit of \$156.....The church has created a Board of Christian Education with J. Harold Blackwell chosen as chairman.....

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

In a shift of railroad personnel, a young lady now has charge of the Reading station from 3 P.M. to closing time. Since she is not a "key-pounder," telegrams to be sent out are not accepted during those hours.....Doc Amos Stults has had his driveway macadamized, and while it was "setting," a lawn bench was placed across the entrance. That afternoon, Doc parked his car with the front wheels up on the lawn between the sidewalk and curb.....With meat being very scarce, local residents go shopping bright and early. As many as 20 have been seen in front of some of the shops at 8 A.M. The egg shortage hasn't been seriously felt, although in North Jersey the stores have sold only three to a customer at times.....Edgar Stout, former Postmaster at Harbourton, and Mrs. Stout have returned from Florida. His health is greatly improved. They expect to return South when Winter approaches.....Jim Di Iorio, the tailor, is having boiler trouble again, with pressing halted for a couple of days until his equipment gets fixed up. "It will give me a chance to catch up on some of my sewing," he says.....Scott Dansberry, Jr. was O.K.'d when he reported for his Army physical and is subject to call for basic training.

In last Tuesday's Primary election, only 57 votes were cast, with no local contests. Clarence A. Runyon was nominated for Mayor; Will Drake for Council, and J. Howard Dilts for Tax Collector, and George S. Clark, also for Council....State Highway officials are proposing to chart a new course for Pennington Road between Trenton and Pennington, having it branch west near the Odd Fellows Home, pass behind the Lansing School and come through to the Pennington traffic circle.

POETRY CORNER

Here's a poem that's worth reading, having appeared in the N.Y. Herald-Tribune being based on a news item about a soldier who said "Paradise, U.S.A." when he returned from Europe. The author is Adin Ballou; the title "Home Address":

"Look from the slanted deck, with eager eyes,
On city towers, crowding city skies;
This is the dreamed and long-awaited day,
That brings you back to 'Paradise, U.S.A.'"

"Touch once again the soil so long untrod,
You that have marched on Europe's blood-stained sod;
Warm and unscarred, in the now sun of May,
Are shining streets of 'Paradise, U.S.A.'"

"Lost are grim ruins and the grimmer dead;
This is a living land before you spread;
A land you fought for that it still can stay
Safe and unchanged, just 'Paradise, U.S.A.'"

THE EDITOR CHATS

Every day almost, the urgency of receiving changes of address becomes more apparent. It almost seems as if everyone is on the move--toward home in some cases, to new assignments, etc. The "Hopewell News" will have a much better chance of getting to you while the information is still reasonably fresh, if addresses are mailed in as soon as available. In some instances, a V-Mail form is available, apparently, although a few lines of news is always welcomed, too.

The "Hopewell News" doesn't mind a bit of travelling, but it would prefer to go as directly as possible. Speaking of travelling, it looks as if the copy sent to Pfc. Wilbur U. Hurlley (of Stoutsburg) sets a record. He says he is about 12,000 miles from home, but after he reads each issue, he mails it back to his wife, Lois, who is living in Pennington. So that copy goes 24,000 miles!

Had no idea when work started on this issue that it would run to eight pages. Hope nobody seriously objects. If such complaints do come in, at least they will not be like the straphangor's complaint--of long standing.

Hope everything goes well with you.

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor --

VOL. III, No. 10

Hopewell, N.J., July 10, 1945

41st Issue

JIM HALL WOUNDED, AWARDED PURPLE HEART;

DIDN'T SEND WORD HOME FOR OVER TWO MONTHS

Pfc. James H. Hall, who sped across Germany with General Patton's crashing spearheads, was wounded on April 10th, it has just been learned. Fragments of an enemy mortar shell hit him in the shoulder, chin and elbow. The pistol he was wearing has a large cut in the handle where a piece of flying steel struck it. Jim spent a day and a half in the hospital and returned to action three days after being injured. Then on June 18th at Mittenwald, Germany, he received a Purple Heart decoration. Jim was serving with the Tenth "Fighting Tigers" Armored Division.

Writing to his parents, Jim asked them to forgive him for withholding the news, explaining that he did so to save them from worry. Extracts from his letter follow:

"Well, here goes....I was wounded April 10th. We were breaking out of that five-day trap, and it was night. I was in the half-track at my machine-gun when we rode over the top of a hill. A mortar shell hit and knocked me cold. I got two or three little pieces of steel in me, one in my shoulder, a real small one; one under my chin and one in my elbow. But that was not so bad as the medics picked them out. But I was sent to the hospital for a day and a half as my nose and mouth wouldn't stop bleeding. I told the doctor there not to telegraph you as you would worry, so he said they wouldn't.

"Then I decided not to tell you until the war was over, but for some reason I did not get my Purple Heart, and then I decided to wait until I did. Today when I came off guard the Captain called me to the office and gave it to me. I am sending all but the ribbon home. I'm very proud of it and think it is very pretty, so take good care of it for me....I didn't tell you, because I thought it would be better that way....I went back in the fighting three days after, so you know I'm O.K. and only have one scar, on my elbow. So you see the Lord must have surely been with me. Well, I guess you're almost in by now, so I'll sign off for today."

Jim also sent home a pictorial map showing the battle route of the "Fighting Tigers" Armored Division. Jim joined the outfit before it crossed the Saar River near Trier, and then went on to the Rhine crossing at Mannheim, after which it swept down toward Southeastern Germany, crossing the Neckar and Danube rivers. At Crailsheim, they were trapped for five days but finally broke out and continued through to Ulm, Oberammorgau and Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

SURPRISE ARRIVALS

Happy surprises are coming thick and fast as fellows returning from Europe call up the folks here at home to report their arrival in the States with an added "I'll be home soon." Sgt. Merritt McAlindon, Jr., who went into Germany with an Ordnance Company, arrived last Friday. He had come into Newport News, Va. and cleared thru Camp Patrick Henry and Fort Dix. He has 31 days' leave and then reports to Camp Shelby, Miss., where he was many months back.

George C. Phillips, SFl/c, who has been far out on the Pacific on an AKA ship, wired Friday from California that he would be home in a few days.

Pfc. Nicholas Guiseppe has just returned from Germany, where he served with a Medical Detachment....John Wallace Boico, MM2/c, is home on leave at the present time. He is the husband of the former Mary Wyckoff....Raymond Van Arsdale, of the Merchant Marine, also has been in town....With three years' service in New Guinea, Leyte, Luzon and Guam Islands, Cpl. Robert O. Lawson, has reveled in "taking life easy" in Hopewell, North Jersey and New York. He is the husband of Mrs. Margaret VanDoren Lawson, of the Elementary School faculty. While he was on Leyte, 800 Jap soldiers parachuted in, with all hands taking part in combatting the threat. Lawson also feels fortunate in that on one occasion a piece of shrapnel landed in his bed--but he wasn't there at the time.

VAN DYKE DISCHARGED

Pfc. Herbert VanDyke, who came home early in May after months overseas that included M.P. duty, most recently in Northern Italy, has received his honorable discharge.

CASKET FALLS FROM TRAIN

An odd mishap occurred the other day on the Reading Railroad involving the baggage-passenger car better known as the "dinky." As the "dinky" came around Crusher Curve, a burial casket being carried in the baggage-car went sliding out the doorway of the baggage compartment. Fortunately, the casket was empty. When it hit the roadbed, the outside box was splintered and one end of the casket loosened. It was consigned to Francois C.W. Rorer, who naturally refused to accept it after it had been unloaded at the Hopewell station. Instead, he put in a hurry call to Phila. for a replacement which came through on a later train the same afternoon.

SARDINES?

Folks who have seen the former Air Raid lookout building atop the Borough reservoir are puzzled over the decision of Borough Council to donate it to Troop #26, Boy Scouts, as a meeting place. True enough, the Scouts need a suitable building, since their quarters next to the Eagle Bakery were destroyed by fire on May 30th.

But the abandoned Air-Raid building measures only 8 by 10 feet, outside measurements--and the Troop has 30 members! It might be possible to wedge them all in, sardine-can style, but if Bob Copner, Scoutmaster, ever called for a salute, the sides of the building would surely have to bulge out. The Scouts, unwilling to decline any gift, plan to use the building as it is adaptable for storage of salvaged papers. It is expected that it will be shifted to a lot on Lafayette Street or possibly on the H.A. Smith property.

However, the meeting-place problem remains unsolved--although the Borough hall is well adapted for such purposes. Some say that it is reserved for the fire company, because they are housed in the building and serve the community as volunteers. If that's the reason, somebody must be losing sight of the fact that the Boy Scouts have made a big contribution and served the Borough well in collecting waste paper--aside from the fact that a community-owned property should be in constant use for worthwhile community projects.

Eventually, the Scouts plan to build a suitable place, using funds raised in a recent drive. Meanwhile, an "8-by-10" gift by Borough Council, in a moment of "generosity," remains no bigger than "8-by-10."

PRIZE FOR COURTESY

Mrs. George Everitt, wife of Pfc. George T. Everitt, recently won a prize for courtesy. She was one of 25 persons singled out by a radio network program, after representatives of 25 stations across the country had made note of acts of courtesy witnessed as every-day happenings. Mrs. Everitt, selling War Bonds in a Phoenix, Arizona, department store, clicked with the radio station observer. She has been out there working as a store clerk, while her husband continued on his assignment as an "M.P." at the Papago Park P.W. Camp nearby. The prize was a \$25 War Bond. The Everitts are back in Hopewell at present, taking advantage of his furlough.

PORTRAITS UNVEILED

Photographs of two Hopewell fellows who died in military service are given special display at the H.A. Smith Machine Company plant, following a memorial tribute paid by their former associates there. Those honored are Frank Ege, who was aboard a troop transport sunk in the Mediterranean while he was en route overseas, and Franklin Hill, killed while serving with the Marines during the conquest of Iwo Jima in the Pacific. A dedicatory talk was given by Captain John H. Ginter, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, who was home from Perrin Field, Texas. Scouts assisted in the unveiling, with music and prayer included in the program. Albert G. Stotzer arranged for the special event.

SPONSORS

The "Hopewell News" goes on and on--and thoughtful friends keep saying "Let me help foot the bill." Those who have assisted recently include: Mrs. Elmire Domer, Mrs. Charles Ockelmann, John W. Burd, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Allen and Mrs. Maurice Panocast.

EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY

Imagine serving in an outfit with 100 fellows--all of whom have birthdays in the month of June! That's been the unique experience of Pvt. Paul A. Ashton, who is at Ellington Field, Texas, with an AAF Base Unit. Presents and boxes of special eats began to arrive from the folks back home as soon as June opened and there was no let-up until July 1st arrived. "Birthday cakes and presents of all sizes, shapes and varieties kept pouring in," Paul reported, and that meant special treats almost every night for 30 nights in a row.

It came about because in grouping the fellows while they were at Keesler Field, Miss., the division had been by months. But there's some likelihood that the group will split up soon. Meanwhile, Paul is taking private flying lessons in his off-time, and has had about four hours of instruction thus far. He's hoping that if Air Cadet training opens up later, the flying instruction will prove helpful.

"HOKEY" REVEALS FURTHER DETAILS
CONCERNING EXPERIENCES AS PRISONER OF NAZIS

Friends of Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe, Jr. have heard highly interesting accounts of his experiences during the 139 days he spent as a prisoner of the Nazis, in conversations since his arrival home on June 15th. To "Hokey" it was just an experience and he discusses those eventful days in a matter-of-fact way, although a bit surprised that everyone is so anxious to know more about it.

"Hokey" is still busy trying to catch up on the news about fellows in the service and town happenings, for a wall of silence closed around him when he was captured on December 11th. His parents and relatives made many attempts to get letters and packages to him, once those ten weeks of extreme anxiety ended on Feb. 10th with word that he was alive and being held by the Nazis. However, "Hokey" never received a scrap of mail. Likewise, his own attempts to send word were unsuccessful. Prisoners were permitted to write a card at long intervals but the GIs soon became convinced that most or all of it was thrown away to save the bother of censoring it.

In the first three or four weeks after being seized, the fellows in his group had plenty to worry about, wondering what might happen next to them. "Hokey" still wonders how it happened that they let him keep his penknife--which later made him rather popular because it was a big help in cutting the hard, dark bread that was given to them. Incidentally, the bread was made of sawdust, chemically treated, which the Germans insisted made it "good for you." It was so hard, however, that the fellows usually soaked it down and called it bread pudding. But in searching "Hokey," the Nazis seized with delight upon his highly-prized wrist-watch, which he had purchased with cash he received when he sold his "threshing-machine" car just before he went into the Army. He's still wondering what became of it.

Once he had arrived at Stalag 7-A at Moosburg, in Southeastern Germany about 40 miles from the Austrian border, life settled down into somewhat of a routine. Every other day, they were taken by train to Munich or other cities to work on properties damaged by American bombing planes. The Nazis wouldn't give farm work to the GIs, because the latter worked at a slow pace, damaged crops, etc. "Hokey" also did a lot of work on the damaged railroads. He did plenty of heavy lifting, 20 men being used to carry a single rail. A number of Russian women, brought into Germany to work, were assigned jobs on the railroad tracks, too. If perchance the bombing planes came over while they were at work on the tracks, the Nazi guards forced the GI prisoners to stay under bridges and other target points, while the guards sought greater safety elsewhere. But strangely enough, "Hokey" says, he never heard of an American who was killed in that way, despite the practice.

On the other hand, escape was hardly possible. A few attempted it at times, "Hokey" states, but the German people lived in such fear of their rulers that they reported fugitives promptly. So the GIs, satisfied that the war was moving speedily to a close, bided their time, did as little work as possible, bribed guards and civilians in order to get enough to keep alive--and made life miserable as possible for those who tried to supervise them. After all, that was simple justice for the Nazis, who, for example, sat on benches around stoves in the boxcar used to take the prisoners on their four-hour trips to Munich, while the prisoners were compelled to stand and endure the extreme cold. Of course, if a trick was played on a Nazi guard, it had to be well done or retaliation followed. But "Hokey" still gets a hearty laugh out of telling about a Jerry, who like many other guards, asked a GI in the group with "Hokey" aboard a train enroute to Munich, "Haben sie Chocolate?" (Have you any chocolate). The guard knew that Red Cross packages received by the prisoners often contained a bottle of chocolate-filled M & M candy. The GI produced a bottle and the guard busied himself eating the "candy," while the GIs could hardly disguise their amusement. For the "candy" actually was a supply of Cascara tablets, and the guard downed about 100 of them! "Hokey" is convinced that the Jerry never asked another GI for "Chocolate!"

The railroad job was O.K. in some respects, as it offered a chance to smuggle lumps of coal back into camp. Inspection wasn't too severe at times, because hundreds were going in and out daily on work assignments. But the soft-coal didn't burn very well. Using some of the cigarettes received in Red Cross packages--the only "money" they had available--"Hokey" succeeded in obtaining a bellows at a cost of 16 cigarettes. Bringing it into camp, it helped wonderfully in fanning the soft-coal fire when they tried to cook up some of the foodstuffs that offered the chief relief from German foods, that consisted chiefly of potatoes. Matches were extremely scarce, so when preparing to start a fire, they would look around camp for a wisp of smoke and then "carry a light" from another fire.

However, hopes ran high for daily they witnessed the flight of hundreds of bombers and fighters toward the heart of Germany. The prisoners also know the trend of the news, as British prisoners had succeeded in bringing a short-wave radio into camp over which they heard the news nightly from London. In fact, Jerry guard asked prisoners about the trend of things, and the "grapevino" route spread news reports throughout the camp with little loss of time. (see other side)

"HOKEY" REVEALS (continued)

Then as it came toward the end of April and the advancing Army was pressing toward the prison camp at Moosburg, it became apparent that the Nazis were going to move everybody to another camp. On the night before they did move, about 400 GIs including "Hokey" slept in a big circus tent, he says. Early in the morning, the Jerries tried to get them up to make them do a day's work. The prisoners refused and finally five dogs were set loose in the tent, forcing the men to get up and scurry out, seeking safety. However, the rebellion continued and the Americans did no work that day, but were moved that night to Stalag 7-B at Memmingen, about 50 miles from the Swiss border. Three days later, the American tank spearheads came charging into the camp--so far ahead of the Infantry that the latter, riding in trucks, did not appear until the next day.

What about the Nazis and their ideas? "Hokey" says that they do not understand the American way of life, most of them believing as the result of propaganda that we want to rule the world. He thinks it will have to begin with the education of the children and that military rule over the German people alone cannot accomplish lasting results and prevent the outbreak of another war.

"KEN" BURROUGHS WEDS

Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs is now happily married, being wed on June 16th at Houston, Texas, to Miss Marilyn Carroll, daughter of Mrs. Elwyn Carroll, of that city. The ceremony came within less than three weeks from "Ken's" return from England where he had flown 34 missions as an Eighth Air Force bombardier. He had met his future bride while he was stationed in Texas and they had made plans before he went overseas.

"Ken" admits that his first ten air missions "were very rough" but says that a decline followed until the last ten were fair "milk runs," the Air Force word for easy missions. "Although the Luftwaffe was up during many of my missions, I had no trouble with fighters," he continued. "But there was a time that there would be a rough target every time I was up and it got to the point where fellows didn't want to fly on a mission that I was on. Then my luck changed and everything after that was rosy." Before coming home, he had a seven-day leave and went to Scotland, visiting Edinburgh, Loch Lomond and Glasgow, finding that "most of Scotland is a scenic wonderland."

GIVES HOPEWELL A "BUZZING"

On two days in a row, Hopewell got a "buzzing" from a B-25 plane, piloted by a Hopewell Army flier. Since the Army frowns upon that stunt, the pilot's name must be left unmentioned, other than to say that he is the son of a certain garage proprietor here. He had phoned in advance that he was due to fly from South Carolina to the New York area and gave the approximate time of arrival over Hopewell. He didn't need to send advance word, for the roar of the plane's engine as he went over almost at tree-top level gave many residents a real scare. It was late afternoon on a Saturday and the "buzzing" was repeated a little earlier on the next afternoon.

QUIET FOURTH OF JULY

Fourth of July was a more quiet day than most Sundays in Hopewell. Many people wore away, of course, and there being no special observance planned locally, others went to Pennington where a sports program and a block dance went off as scheduled. Fire-crackers? What are they?

TAKE REVENGE ON SS SNIPERS

Cpl. Joseph C. Castagnola and his Tank Battalion had to deal with a nest of hidden SS Nazi troopers, hidden away in the Hartz Mountains in Germany, recently. The troopers, who came into a little village nearby for food at night, took the lives of two of Joe's buddies with their sniper fire. Let Joe tell what followed: "We soon took care of that after they got our two boys. That afternoon we went up with our tanks and burned the village to the ground to teach them a lesson, and not to help or have any dealings with these SS men, rather murderers. The plan worked for that week, with the help of civilians, we rounded up close to 200 of these 'rats.'" Later, the Tank Battalion moved into Czechoslovakia, and joined the Third Army, instead of the Ninth Army. He says that Czechoslovakia is quite old-fashioned, and the people very poor but "kind and friendly to us." While he cannot understand their language, Joe says he has enjoyed daily visits to the blacksmith shop ("that reminds me of George Wyckoff's shop") where he has a group of old men who wait daily for him to give them cigarettes or a pipeful of tobacco. Joe adds: "They sure enjoy it, and I got a kick out of doing it."

ENTERING ARMY

Tom Pancoast began his Army training last Tuesday, with an assignment to the Army Air Force ground crew. He graduated from Princeton High School last month. Scott Dansberry, Jr. is wondering why the Selective Service chose Friday, the 13th of July, for him to report for active duty. He expects to go to Fort Dix for re-assignment to a basic training center.

ABOARD AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

Harold Van Liew, AOM 2/c, writing on stationery that carried a picture of a new aircraft carrier, stated: "I'm aboard ship now (June 10th) but I can't tell you where I am, though hoping to be home in the near future." He previously had been in recent months at Norfolk, Atlantic City and Groton, Conn. "Being aboard ship isn't as much of a snap as I thought it was going to be," Harold adds. Our days are long and the work is harder than any I ever had before. Chow is pretty good, even though we do hit a bad one now and then." He adds that they have two small ships stores and one soda fountain. Even though Harold used to work in the "Spot" in the days when ice cream was plentiful, he admits that "The ice cream really tastes good when the days are as hot as they are here."

Arch Litzner, AMM2/c, also reported from at sea, his second major assignment on the Pacific. The carrier that he previously was aboard went through severe engagements back in 43-44, after which Arch was on shore, based at Portland, Oregon, for some time. He writes: "Everything has been repetitious of my last trip out here, even to the ship. It is identical (except name and number, of course). I tried awfully hard to see Ken Hullfish in Pearl Harbor but was unsuccessful."

LATE COMERS

The old cry, "Any fish today?" soon may have to be changed in Hopewell to "Any fish tonight?" That is, if the Tash brothers, from Rocky Hill, continue to make the rounds as recently. For one Tuesday night, after 10 P.M., they were ringing bells and knocking at doors in the East end of town to ask "Any fish today?" However, business was brisk, even at that time of night, for meat has been plenty scarce and folks were glad to get their hands on a mackerel, a flounder or a croaker.

OLD SAW-MILL BEING TORN DOWN

Timbers from the old Finney & Fetter saw-mill on Louellen Street are being hauled away daily and the former landmark soon will be no more. A serious fire several years ago wrecked it although Scott Kise, the owner, had continued to use a portion for a wagonhouse. There was a time when it was the site of a thriving industry, whose shipments went all over the world. Then, too, the factory whistle, in the days before radios were known, used to be the signal for housewives and others to set their kitchen clocks at noon each day.

Lumber used for the New York Central docks in New York Harbor was supplied through the Finney & Fetter saw-mill. The rudder stock for the "Meteor," a vessel built for Kaiser Wilhelm and christened by Alice Roosevelt, daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt, also came from this mill, while shipments to Australia and all parts of Europe, as well as England, were fairly frequent. But there was business nearby, too. Thousands of axe and hammer handles, made of Jersey hickory, were shaped and delivered to the Germantown Tool Co., Phila; while apple wood went into Disston saw handles. Then prior to World War I, the mill handled a number of orders for walnut stock, cut to specified sizes. The wood was obtained largely in New Jersey, but some was bought as far away as Canada. Then came the war and the discovery followed that the walnut stock needed for gun stocks by the U.S. was not available, as Germany had been buying it up in advance. The mill also turned out hundreds of wagon wheels.

In outting timber from a wood lot near Princeton, A. G. Fetter, one of the partners in the business and the father of Herbert and George Fetter, Miss Clara Fetter and Mrs. Anna Phillips, as well as the late John Fetter, former County Clerk, discovered bullets in some of the wood. It developed that they were pewter bullets, used in the Battle of Princeton during the Revolutionary War, the bullets being in the heart of the trees, indicating that the trees were saplings when the battle was fought. The original mill, built about 1876, was burned in October, 1895, and the structure now being razed, was erected to replace it. A. G. Fetter was the son of a lumberman and ran the business long after his partner, John Finney, of Lambertville, died. After Fetter's death, his executors continued the business until its sale to Scott Kise, who gave it up about 15 years ago.

WHERE'S THE CIRCUS?

Another circus had been billed to play Hopewell last Friday, July 6th, but the boys who went to the Hart Avenut ball diamond to see the tent go up were due for a disappointment. The circus failed to appear! One report was that the outfit, known as Bond Bros., claiming to have three-ring attractions, had bogged down in Lambertville, after being rained out of its performance scheduled for the previous night there.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A story is told about Robert St. John, well-known author, and his luxuriant beard. He was standing in the lobby of a Chicago hotel and his beard attracted considerable attention. A woman visitor decided to ask a page the identity of the owner of the beard.

"That's St. John," the page replied.

"Um-m," mused the visitor, gazing again at the man with the beard, "Here for the Baptist Convention, I presume."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

William H. Wyckoff, SM2/c, who is now on Pacific duty after many months in the Mediterranean zone, was thrilled by Hawaii "on our way out here"--with the location of "here" undisclosed, of course. He writes: "We have been kept on the go and not a spare minute that isn't occupied. We haven't seen mail for weeks. I'm in hopes it will catch up with us soon. We have mail ships that carry the mail for us, but they aren't always handy.....I can say now that on our way out here we stopped over at Hawaii for a while. I used to go on liberty in Honolulu, Waikiki Beach, and Pearl City and took in every place of interest while I had the chance. I went in for the Hawaiian way of things in a big way, buying a pair of native-design bathing trunks. They are gorgeous and kind of loud in design and color. We used to go out to Waikiki Beach swimming a lot. I had the chance to try riding the surf-boards with the natives and really had a lot of fun. Also visited the pineapple and sugar-cane plantations and saw how they grow....Oh, yes, I really looked over the hula-hula girls. They aren't running around the streets with grass skirts on, but there are little islands off the mainland where they are still living primitive. I saw a group of real Hawaiians, grass skirts, music and hula girls at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel on Waikiki Beach. That hotel is the most beautiful I have ever seen....It was nice also to see Pearl Harbor. If women from home could be there, they would really have a time of it for nothing is rationed out there. You can buy shoes, meat, clothing, everything without a single red or blue ration point or stamp."

A brief report on the Island of Oahu, in the Hawaiians, comes from Pvt. Harry E. McCandless. He arrived there recently to join a Field Artillery Battalion that has been there for eight months. In a letter (June 17th) Harry said he hadn't seen much of the island as yet, although he had visited a small town called Wahiawa a couple of times. He said it was "about the same size as Hopewell and has a theatre, roller-skating and an ice-skating rink and several penny arcades. "Ice cream is quite expensive," he adds, "but last week I got a banana split very much like those Mr. Ewing makes. It was delicious."

S/Sgt. Charles "Reg" Hurley, with the Coast Artillery on Pacific assignment, writes (June 27) that the outlook for his return home isn't at all promising. "From the few letters I have been receiving it seems that everyone thinks I shall be home shortly or I should be on my way already," he comments, then adds: "Once this year I expected to be home by the end of July, then I thought surely by the end of the year but now--who knows. It looks as if I have quite a spell to 'sweat out' yet."

Lieut. Harold Temple, pilot in the Troop Carrier Service in the Southwest Pacific, says: "We have some replacements but I don't know whether mine is here or not. I will be over here for several months yet, anyway, as several others are ahead of me".....His brother, Vernon I. Temple, MM3/c, didn't get extended shore leave recently as hoped for, and so his anticipated trip East for the first visit home in two years didn't materialize. He's on a ship hauling materiel to the Pacific war areas.

Cpl. Edward H. Esche, is now on the island of Luzon, in the Philippines, with a Signal Aircraft Warning outfit. "I think this is the hottest place that I've been," he states. "Someone said it was 137 degrees and I believe they are right. As you have heard, I had the good fortune to meet Bob Hill and Ray Burd. They were certainly surprised to see me when I walked aboard their ship. I was also surprised when a fellow told me their ship was around."

A "bargain" in Hawaii is like most bargains the world around, according to Herbert E. Wilson, S1/c (Rdm). Revealing that he, too, had a chance to see Honolulu, he says: "It was most surprising how modern a city Honolulu is and how scarce the real, genuine Hawaiians are. With all the mixtures of races, American, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese, Korean, Filipino, English, etc., Hawaii has been aptly named the 'Melting Pot of the Pacific.' The Oriental merchants are shrewd, too. Take for example, the undershirt bearing a gaily-colored motif which our ship's baker purchased for \$1. Even while he baked bread in the galley, all the colors ran out of the print. Then take the multitude of fly-by-night traffickers bordering the YMCA catering to the sailor's dollar. The busiest shop was the photographer who had sailors lined up on the sidewalk waiting to have their pictures taken with a lei around their necks and their arm around the waist of his pretty (?) hula dancer model. Many sailors returned to the ship with souvenirs made in the States and unrationed shoes. Many dollar bills bearing the Hawaii imprint are still in circulation, grim reminders of the first precarious days of the war. As for the beauty of Hawaii, it cannot be denied."

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to

John B. Boyle--August 6
 J. Garrett Conover--August 6
 Nicholas Guiseppe--August 10
 Samuel Hightower--August 15
 John Vincent Monteleone--Aug. 1
 T. A. Pierson, 3rd--August 4
 J. V. Sperling--August 17
 Elmer Sutphen--August 17
 Julius Yehaa--August 19
 Adam J. Ziglenski--August 15

Now it is officially confirmed that Pfc. John "Jack" F. Van Lieu has three battle stars, the latest being for the Central Burma (Mandalay) Campaign. He is with an Air Combat Cargo group. At present, he is in Burma, moving from India around the 1st of June. His first two battle stars were for work while in China. Under a new assignment, his job includes mail-clerk services. While he likes Burma, Jack finds the intense heat is something, with temperatures of 143 quite frequent. He also dislikes "the millions of gnats that fly into your eyes, ears, nose and mouth."

Lieut. Charles E. Palmatier, Jr. is now at Reims, France, working in headquarters of the Assembly Area Command, being on the special staff in the Signal Section. He's hoping that any Hopewell fellows who are being re-deployed through that area will drop in or call. He has met John Hankinson. That was at Nancy, and they spent three days together, after meeting by accident. As Charles expressed it, "We grew up together and had been friends all our lives, as well as neighbors." Palmatier has been in the Army for five years and spent three years of it overseas. He hopes that another six months will "change the picture for I would certainly welcome a change to civilian life again."

Erwin W. Benson, of the Airborne Artillery, has regained his rank as Corporal. He had given it up when he shifted to the Headquarters Battery but earned the promotion.....Pvt. William S. Conover is now at Nurnberg, Germany, being with a 2nd Division Infantry company.....Sgt. Bruce H. Cray, with an Army General Hospital in England, recently had his first plane ride, travelling three hours by air to Scotland for a furlough. He visited Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Writing on June 22nd, Cpl. Norman G. Hoegland stated that he was due to leave the next morning for LeHavre, France, upsetting all the "dope" that their Field Artillery Battalion would serve as occupation troops in Germany. His guess was that they might do M.P. duty there while awaiting transportation to the States in a month or so. However, he termed it "a move in the right direction" as France would be a welcome change after seven months in Germany.

T/5 Thomas Faherty (Field Artillery) is with the Ninth Army at Thal, Germany, living in a hotel and doing military government work. Thal is about 10 miles from Eisenach. He calls it "a good rest with some sports.".....Pfc. Anton Holstrom (in S.A.W. Battalion) located 12 miles south of Passau, Germany, and a mile from Austria, turned down a furlough in Paris, London or Belgium, preferring to wait until his "bundle" got his. "Then we're heading for London," he says. Meanwhile, he goes on, "We are going to school and taking life easy. It's sure beautiful here. On a clear day, we can see snow-capped mountains and during the night it gets pretty cold."

Pfc. Joseph Muredda, whose Infantry Division is occupying Bremen, says the port is being cleared and soon should be receiving ships from the States. It seems strange, he continues, to see our sailors and Seabees once again. The days there are real long, almost 21 hours, he comments, with cool nights.

Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell is taking courses in journalism and leathercraft at Camp Upton, Long Island, where he is getting continued hospital care following his return from France and furlough home. He had a severe case of frozen feet following front-line action last winter.....Richard G. Sutphen, F2/o, is now at Newport, Rhode Island, detailed to a ship. He previously was at Gulfport, Miss, in the Basic Engineering School....Pvt. William R. Bodine (Army Air Force) has moved from Spppard Field, Texas, to Lowry Field, Colorado and is attending the Remote Control Turst Mechanic and Gunner School. He says it is wonderful country with good food.

Lieut. William Lowe (Army Air Force) is completing an extended navigation course. The original 20 weeks were stretched to 24, with classes for review of the previous ground school and flying time training. Occasionally, "We have a close call with another ship in the air," he states, "and that livens things up a little (if it doesn't give you heart failure first). We were flying a night mission not long ago. It was around 10 o'clock when all our lights quit in the ship. That created a little trouble. There was only one flashlight on the ship. Here's one navigator who was beginning to wonder where he was, but everything turned out O.K. in the end, but you'd be surprised what queer writing and figuring you can do in the dark....The heat has been terrific almost consistently for a month." Recently, he visited Vicksburg, Miss. for a week-end.

Pvt. George Brain, of Columbia Avenue, is moving through basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia. On a recent Sunday, a group from the Camp went to Macon, Ga. to attend church and were honored by being asked to sing in the choir. He said it was a welcome change from Infantry "basic."

Capt. John Ginter, Army Air Force chaplain, has returned to Perrin Field, Texas, after being back in town in time to see his son, Jack, graduate from Princeton High School. Although on leave as pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Captain Ginter made a busy time of it, calling on as many of his parishioners as possible. Jack, who is 18 later this month, anticipates being called for military service promptly, but it's a toss-up as to whether he goes into the Army or Navy.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless (Infantry) has arrived at Manila after being on shipboard for a month. The harbor still bears evidence of its re-capture from the Japs, with sunken Jap ships, masts sticking up from the water. The natives, who live in poor shacks, seem quite happy because the Americans have taken over, Tom Reports.

S/Sgt. Harold Johnson, former American Store butcher, is now at Casablanca, North Africa, busy keeping planes in condition. From that point, the Air Transport Command is sending troops home by plane, leaving there one day and arriving at LaGuardia Field, N.Y. the next morning.....William Macneil left Hopewell recently to report to his Selective Service Board in Boston for active duty.....In a recent issue of "Stars and Stripes" showing soldiers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Paris on Memorial Day, there appeared Hartwell P. Vannoy, who rated the trip after a drawing had been held to decide who received the honor.....Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew was home twice recently for a few hours, his AGF Band finishing up its New York State tour in support of the War Loan drive.....T/5 Steve Ruggieri, who had thought that chances of getting home looked ^{good} received orders that put him back in harness with his Engineers Battalion.

Sgt. Clifford H. Leming and Miss Marian James were wed a short time ago out in Colorado, where he is presently assigned...Cpl. Paul C. Stryker (Field Artillery) says his outfit supported the 92nd (Colored) Division and the 442nd (Japanese) Regiment during the two final campaigns in Northern Italy. He says they proved to be outstanding outfits, being one of the most decorated groups in the service. He adds that they have a number of outstanding actions to their credit "and never failed in their missions both in Italy and France." Paul recently rode on the back of a truck for 24 hours straight in order to reach Rome where he was sent for a week to attend the Army Education School. Paul is at Cola, Italy, living in a villa on the shore of Lake Garda, a villa where Rommel lived for a time, and later Kesselring.

Pfc. William E. Johnson wrote on June 27th from Lardy, France, after a six-day trip by box-car from Bad Godesburg, Germany. "Before you get any mistaken notions concerning that mode of travel," he writes, "let me tell you this. If you can stand being dirty, during the Summer there is nothing like it. One has excellent observation of all that goes on around him. Much like a camping trip. We took the long way into France which consists of a three-day trip down the Rhine. The track follows the water's edge most of the way and at this time of the year everything in the valley is gorgeous. All in all, I haven't seen anything so breathtaking. Luckily, the sun shone the entire time and since we wore no shirts, I look like the mariners of old, with skin of saddle tan....The war never quite left our minds, however. This was due to several things. Many of the cities are so much rubble; there were thousands of P.W.'s and D.P.'s going by on flatcars; and lastly, the huge overturned river barges marked Rotterdam and Amsterdam, each a symbol of someone's ruined life. I couldn't keep from realizing that they (the barges) might easily be a man's entire life."

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Earl B. Whitcraft, school principal, has a Summer job at H.A. Smith's.... Farley Stout, who is 84, works every night as watchman at the Pennington traprock property....A fruit stand located on Broad Street west of the monument yard of George Spencer, is doing big business--especially bananas and watermelons right now..... Samuel Copner had a close call when hit by lightning while he was near Princeton. He was standing with a group attending a picnic when the lightning flashed. Others in the group were knocked down and several stunned. After hospital treatment, he was able to return to his home.....Donald Allen and John Cutter pedaled to Asbury Park, round-trip in the same day, between 6:30 A.M. and 8 P.M.--about 100 miles....Fire did considerable damage to the side of a double house occupied by Anthony Pisicano at the State Village, Skillman. Patients tried to assist in removing furniture, with heavy smoke handicapping the efforts....A new diving board, 20 feet high, has been installed at the Quarry swimming pool.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mose lost his hat and asked the parson to preach a sermon on the Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," hoping it might induce the person who stole the hat to return same. The obliging parson went a little further and on the following Sunday devoted his sermon to the entire Ten Commandments. About the middle of the sermon, he noticed Mose get up quietly and leave.

On Monday afternoon, meeting Mose upon the street, the parson said:

"Why, you left before my sermon was finished. How did that happen?"

"Well," Mose replied, "when you got to the Commandment, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery,' I suddenly remembered where I had left my hat!"

IN CLOSING

Well, it looks as if this edition will have to be closed out in a hurry. It's a good thing that I'm not giving you this news by long-distance telephono--that is, unless the charges had been reversed. It's the old story; I didn't know I had so much to say until I got started. Say! Has your address changed? If so, be sure to let me know--and at the same time, some word about yourself. Best of luck.

97 W. Broad Street, Hopewell, N.J.

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Hopewell News

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

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RECEIVE SPECIAL AWARDS

Two men from the Hopewell area have received special awards as an acknowledgment of outstanding service. Cpl. Stanley H. ("Bucky") Runyon is entitled to wear the ribbon indicating a Presidential citation for his unit, 310th Infantry, 78th Division, based upon meritorious conduct in the seizure of the Rhine bridge at Remagen early in March. That feat enabled troops to establish a bridgehead and forge ahead across Germany to final victory. Incidentally, "Bucky" has been under treatment lately because of a mishap, as yet undescribed, that caused injuries to his mouth and teeth.

The other award went to Sgt. Leonard Vandewater (Infantry), being a Purple Heart. He had a close call from a sniper's bullet soon after seeing front-line action in France. The bullet grazed the back of his neck, as he described it, and he returned to action almost immediately. In fact, he minimized the whole experience, and had not anticipated that a Purple Heart award would come his way because of it. At present, he is in Germany with the 76th Division, Seventh Army, waiting for the answer to that big question, "Do we go or do we stay?" Leonard has written home that he never expected to be issued camera film along with rations, but that has been happening in Germany. Many fellows picked up cameras along the way, he says, and film has been so plentiful that it's been handed out freely.

RAPID CHANGES

Almost every day brings word of changes in status or location for those in the Armed Forces. A few are being discharged and picking up civilian activities; others are arriving for a furlough and then continued duties, while many others are left to battle with uncertainty. But the number of those released or at home on furlough still remains a small percentage of the total from Hopewell and vicinity who are in military service.

Those discharged include Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry), Pfc. William S. Conover (Infantry) and Charles C. Wyckoff, Sr. (Infantry). An item about Ernie Blackwell follows. Bill Conover, enjoying himself around town in civilian clothes, says "It's great to be a free man again." He returned from Germany but had been in service for five years, spending three years in Panama Canal Zone before a shift to North Carolina, Georgia and Texas for further training, and then the trip across the Atlantic. Charles Wyckoff, received a medical discharge while at Atlanta, Georgia, and has returned to his home on North Greenwood Avenue.

Several others are due for early discharge. Willis H. Green, who has been in India with an Air Service Group, is reported on his way back, but had advised that it might take a month's travel time. Lieut. James Carter, formerly of Pennington who was married in May to Miss Clairo Morroll, has obtained a job with a Navy storage depot in Tronton, thus completing the Army's rehabilitation program for him and making him eligible for discharge shortly. He has been at Atlantic City in recent months, but on one of his frequent visits to Hopewell, enjoyed a cool swim at the quarry, handling himself skillfully in the water despite the loss of one foot. George O. Phillips, SFl/c, has arrived from California and the Pacific fleet, with the expectation of discharge when he goes to Lido Beach, Long Island, at the end of his 15-day furlough. He is a veteran of World War I, and has served over three years in World War II, and has been on an AKA in the Pacific for a number of months, although recently hospitalized because of a back complaint.

A. Scott Dansberry, Jr., who went into the Navy on July 13th, is about to be discharged because of a back injury that escaped the attention of Selective Service examiners. The trouble goes back a few years, having developed when Scotty was working in North Jersey and doing some heavy lifting. When he returns from Bainbridge, Md., however, he must hold himself available for further call, in case his Selective Service Board thinks he might be accepted for Army service. As Scotty describes it, "About the hardest fighting I've done is wrestling with my laundry." Oh, yes--it should be added--the Navy insists upon calling him by his first name, Ascher.

Lieut. William G. Lowe is home on furlough, after graduating from the Army Air Force Navigators' School at Selman Field, Louisiana. He had been commissioned last December when he completed training at the Bombardier School, Midland, Texas. Pfc. Darin J. Stefoni (Infantry) is back from Germany, on furlough, after seeing six months' service in Holland, then around Aachen, Germany and the Nazi pursuit.

HOME ON FURLOUGHS

Pvt. John P. Lutz, who travelled with an Armored Division through France, Belgium and Germany, took to a taxi to reach Hopewell without delay, after he had arrived in Trenton this past week. He was home on furlough and upon its completion, expects to head West, where his two brothers now are. Sidney Lutz, S1/c, is with a Naval Construction Battalion and recently sailed from California, while Pfc. Elmer Lutz, is with a glider echelon of the Transportation Corps, with a San Francisco APO.

Richard Rockwell returned a short time ago from Czechoslovakia, after being in England, France and Germany. His brother, Robert, has been in England with the Army Air Force. . . . Pfc. Robert A. VanDoren (Signal Battalion) is expected home from the Pacific under the rotation plan. Another who is expected back is Pfc. David Danberry, who in recent months has been assigned to a Station Hospital in Europe.

Cpl. Henry Orr (Infantry) had a great experience in flying from Hickam Field, Honolulu, to California. He was being sent back after being hospitalized due to leg trouble. He was home recently on furlough and then went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, for further hospital care. Doctors had thought it was rheumatic fever, it is understood. Henry has been in the Army for two and a half years, and has been on several Pacific Islands, including Maui and Oahu. As for his plane ride back, he says: "That is the real way to travel," although on his outbound trip he was aboard a former Pacific liner that ran pleasure trips to Australia.

OH! FOR THE LIFE OF A CIVILIAN!

How is it going to feel to be a civilian once again? Here's the story of some of the experiences of Sgt. Ernest L. Blackwell (Infantry) and perhaps it will give you a slant on that question. Ernie had been at Camp Upton, L.I. in recent weeks, after a furlough home, for further treatment of his feet, frozen last Winter while he was in action in France. Being at Camp Upton, he was finding it possible to come home week-ends. Then on Saturday night, July 7th, Ernie walked in, carrying what seemed to his wife like an unusual quantity of laundry in his duffle bag. Dis-mayed at the thought of the laundry, she exclaimed: "How in the world will I ever get all your clothes washed?" But Ernie had a good answer ready. He said:

"Don't worry about that--you'll have plenty of time. They've given me a medical discharge."

After that the laundry didn't matter. Actually the medical discharge came unexpectedly as Ernie expected he would be reassigned within a couple of months and probably sent to the Pacific. Early the next week, Ernie hied off for Trenton and a clothing store. He really didn't need a new suit, he agreed later, but he just wanted to experience the feeling of going into a store and picking out civilian wearing apparel. He included some sports attire, for by that time he and his wife had decided that a vacation rest at Seaside Heights would be just the thing.

But soon his thoughts turned to his old job at H. A. Smith's. It was available for him, of course, and on July 18th, he was back operating an automatic machine. The work requires him to be on his feet for about 10 hours a day, and his feet were taking punishment, but he hoped to see it through. And his Mother, Helen Blackwell, who also works at "H.A.'s," on the same floor, summed it all up when she said: "It seems too good to be true, when I look down his way and see him working there once again."

PICNIC CANCELLED

With a score or more of infantile paralysis cases developing in Trenton, it was decided that the annual picnic of Calvary Baptist Bible School should be called off. And strangely enough, the Harry Hullfish family, on whose property the picnic was to have been held, were the most disappointed of all! They had everything in readiness--the tennis court, quoit grounds, croquet area, etc., and Mr. Hullfish had even mowed weeds in the meadow so the annual ball game could be held. But many parents were dubious about sending their children to a large gathering, and a doctor also advised against holding the event. So it was cancelled, and it remains uncertain whether it will be planned for later in the Summer or not. But the Hullfish family went ahead with plans to entertain relatives, as well as Mrs. Goodwin Webster, wife of the former Baptist pastor here, and held a picnic of their own.

HIS SHIP RESCUES FLIER

Herbert E. Wilson, promoted to RDM S/c on an APD doing Pacific duty, recently rejoiced with fellow crew members when their ship rescued a flier who had spent a night on a life-raft after his plane had been forced down. Radio had carried the word to be on the lookout for the flier, and when he was sighted and taken aboard ship, he wept from sheer joy, having believed that he was going to die. Wilson disclosed recently that he had been at Leyte in the Philippines but wrote on July 9th that he had back-tracked slightly "for a much-needed rest and to load up with supplies." He also commented that "How the Japs can be so stupid and ignorant enough to believe they can accomplish anything against the over-growing strength and power of the U.S. is beyond me."

The Bastille Day celebration in Paris on July 14th, marking the revolution of 1789, was like a World's Fair, according to Pfo. William E. Johnson (Hdq., GFRU). Here's how he describes it:

"This week-end Paris has all the aspects of a World's Fair. Every time I walk down the Champs Elysees, I think of New York in '39. At night the Arch de Triumphe is resplendent at the head of the street, and down both sides fountains and theaters are illuminated in brilliant colors. People throng the sidewalks, singing, shouting and having the time of their lives.... This morning the grand parade was held in all its predicted glory. The First French Army, with all the tanks, jeeps, artillery pieces and half-tracks it could muster, was the particular highlight of the entire affair. At least, this was so in the eyes of the French people. Only the American soldiers noticed the all-too-evident fact that all the paraphernalia was American-made and also American-paid. It can be sewed up in a sentence spoken by one GI after having gazed at the vast procession for two hours, "What a h---uva waste of gas!"..... With all I've seen, I've never found the place with grass so green, with sky so blue, with peace and happiness so ever present, as my own home has for me, forever. I've seen the world's most magnificent trees in California, yet my memory is far more vivid of a cherry tree in the backyard, now long gone."

LOUIE'S THREE WEEKS

When the Eagle Bakery was badly damaged by fire on Memorial Day, Louie Gerhard, the proprietor, said he hoped to resume baking within three weeks. In mid-June, he predicted it would be "about three weeks" longer, and on the Fourth of July, he told customers that he should be turning out his own make of bread, pies, cakes and buns "in three weeks." Now the end of July is here, and Louie is still saying "About three weeks."

In normal times, folks would not be so impatient, perhaps, but the shortage of sugar stopped home-baking long ago, while the supply available in the stores--as far as cakes and pies are concerned--is sharply reduced. But things look brighter. Carpenters are completing repairs to the exterior of the bakery, now that the insurance adjustment is out of the way; the oven repair man will soon be back from a vacation, and if a lot of repair parts are not needed, Louie may be mixing up the dough before long.

BACK ON HOME SOIL

Robert "Bob" I. Hill, MM3/c, saw a lot of ocean during the 15 months he sailed the Pacific. Many a time he probably wished he was back on the farm. His opportunity came soon after coming East from Portland, Oregon, with his wife, Ina Conover Hill on July 19th. Less than 72 hours after they arrived, Bob was riding on a tractor combine cutting a field of wheat. The sweat rolled off him, the wheat "beards" dug into him and the dust and dirt flew, but Bob was as happy as they come.

His ship came back to the West Coast in mid-June, and he and his pal, Raymond W. Burd, MM2/c, who serves on the same AFA vessel, soon had their wives on the phone. Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Burd soon were enroute to Portland, Oregon, and found it a paradise for sailors and their wives--nothing too good for a sailor.... Bob and Ray report back on August 14. They consider it a lucky break that the general overhaul on their ship is taking place on the West Coast, rather than at Pearl Harbor. Their service ribbons include the Asiatic and Philippine campaigns, with four stars, denoting their operations in carrying troops for the invasions of Tinian and Saipan, Iwo Jima, Philippine liberation at Luzon and Leyte, as well as 30-days-or-more of service in Philippine waters. Speaking rather vaguely about many tense moments, Bob summed it all up by saying: "The good Lord must have been taking care of us."

EDITS ARMY NEWS SHEET

Cpl. Paul C. Stryker has been serving as a soldier-editor, issuing a daily news summary known as "Great Guns" for the 428th Field Artillery Group Headquarters in Italy. Being a former teacher in the Hopewell Elementary School, it's "right up his alley." One recent issue of the mimeographed sheet even included a drawing of Okinawa, while the news itself is handled in attractive fashion. In a recent letter from Cola, Italy (no, not Coca Cola) he states that he has even used some information and jokes from the "HOPEWELL NEWS." His outfit has been living in a villa formerly occupied by members of the Italian royal family and Mussolini is believed to have visited the spot secretly to confer with Field Marshal Erwin "Wily Fox" Rommel, and Field Marshal Kesselring, when Nazi High Command Headquarters was maintained there. Now the men of the Field Artillery outfit are glad to have "their day" there.

Paul also comments on the multitude of bicycles in Italy. "Italy certainly has a wealth of them," he says. "They are as thick as flies but, oh, the cost--anywhere from \$150 to \$300."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The following correction appeared in a small-town newspaper:
"Our paper carried a notice last week that Mr. John Doe is a defective on the police force. This was a typographical error. Mr. Doe is really a detective on the police force."

Take it from Sgt. Frank P. Jones, of Mt. Rose, civilian life isn't hard to take, even if you've been in the Army quite a while--four and a half years in his case. And during that time he had spent 30 days in India, Burma, Assam and China. "Civilian life isn't any different, as far as I can see," Jones commented the other day. "Some said it would be hard to get used to it, but I haven't noticed it." He took a job at Hunt's Mills with little delay and because of shortage of help there, has been working overtime considerably.

Life was eventful out there in the CBI theatre and Frank says he never regretted his decision made at Fort Dix, where he was "permanent party" for a while, to ask for a transfer. He went to South Carolina in the Quartermaster Corps and with that branch to India. For a while he was helping to move trucks and equipment forward. Then there came a call for volunteers to serve in with the Air Cargo Resupply Group. Frank had never been up in a plane but he answered the call. The next morning at 6 A.M. he was in a plane for his first mission.

And before he started for home, he had 1,150 hours of recorded time in the air. As to missions, they lost count but Frank knows that they totaled between 350 and 400. That log of his time didn't include numerous trips by air while on leave. In fact, he made numerous trips to advanced points, then hitch-hiked his way back along the Burma Road so he could see some of the spots they had flown over.

For a while, Frank went on four or five missions a day, taking supplies from India to advance units building the road and seizing territory from the Japs. Supplies delivered by planes enabled the work to go on, as a 50-mile ridge of mountains had to be crossed. As troops advanced, the flights became longer until finally only one trip a day was possible. The conquest of Mandalay was almost at its climax then.

Most of the supplies were dumped out without the use of parachutes. Chutes were used when medical supplies and ammunition were being delivered, however, but the planes carried huge quantities of rice, as well as horse-feed for the pack-trains. It's no easy job, as it requires packing of materials so they will land safely, loading the planes so unloading can be completed in a matter of minutes, and then getting the supplies out so they hit the "target"--a small clearing in the jungle. In dropping the supplies, the planes try to get down as low as 200 feet, circling the target as many as 20 times until the plane was entirely unloaded. Time was precious, especially in the early months as Jap "Zero" fighters were likely to appear suddenly and play havoc.

"We lost plenty of men and planes that way," Frank says. On some dropping missions, as many as 20 planes went out. On one occasion, Frank saw a wing of a plane sheared off by a tree-top, the plane burning with its crew lost. Another time, enemy fire hit the wing of the plane he was in, while a man aboard a plane on the same flight was shot and bled to death before the ship returned to its base. He had close calls in other ways, too. Once they lost their direction and found themselves above the snow-capped peaks of Tibet, far up North. When they got back, their plane had only a half-hour's supply of fuel left. Another time, their ship "iced up" and forced them to throw out the cargo, although it consisted of medical supplies and they were over mountains at the time.

Cargo dropping is hazardous for those on the ground, Jones pointed out. The Chinese workers could never be taught to stay off the "target." Jones said he had seen bundles of materials hit men on four occasions, crushing them lifeless to the ground. Another thing that didn't make Frank happy was the occasional discovery that they had dropped supplies to the Japs! Yos, the Japs! But it was unavoidable. In that area, Jap troops would return to re-capture advance posts at night and some of the posts changed hands many times. Word concerning the withdrawal of troops would not get back to the Air Cargo Resupply Group before their early morning take-off, and to the dismay of the fliers and men, a report would come later that the supplies delivered that morning had fallen into Jap hands.

When Jones came home, he had 137 points--but he was rather secretive about his decorations. But he received the Air Medal for the first 100 hours of flying time; the Distinguished Flying Cross for 300 hours; and oak-leaf clusters, including the silver one. He dismisses them as just being given because he had a lot of flying time but the Army specifications still stay, as in the case of the DFC, that it is given for "extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy."

And Frank, being such an unassuming chap, is probably going to ask: "What's the idea, writing up all that stuff about me!"

REFUSED A CIGAR

Spencer Moore, resting himself against the meat block in his grocery, told this one the other day. When his son, Winston, was born, it was in order to bring out a box of cigars. You know--"Congratulations!" "Have a cigar," etc.

The jolly old custom was being carried out well until he encountered one man to whom Spence said: "Have a cigar!" Then he received this reply:

"If you don't mind, I'd rather have a package of Beechnut!"

Spence obliged.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pfc. Bruce Vansant (Engineers Construction Battalion) writes that "I have been here in Manila on Luzon Island in the Philippines for some time now. I was fortunate enough to be in Hawaii for several days and there saw Ken Hullfish at Pearl Harbor. We enjoyed several free hours together talking over old times. I also had time for a visit to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel and to take a dip in the surf at Waikiki. But we are kept busy here most of the time. I have seen many interesting sights as well as others I don't care to see again. All in all, this isn't so bad a place but I can think of many places I'd prefer to be."

Edwin C. Sheppard, Marine veteran of Pacific Island campaigns, now has his stripes as a Sergeant. He is stationed at the Marine Ordnance and Repair Depot, Quantico, Va. He finds it possible to get back to Hopewell about one Sunday a month.... And speaking of promotions, it's now Cpl. John "Jack" F. Van Lieu. He's in Burma with an Air Combat Cargo Group and has earned three battle stars.

Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) was in Le Havre, France, early in July, "sweating it out" at the port of departure for many a home-coming soldier. But he is at Camp Home Run on temporary detached service, running the message center in Post Headquarters. It is a staging area camp used for processing men to the States and he works in an old French fort overlooking the harbor, and so situated that on clear days he can see for miles out to sea. Many comforts are available, however, he adds, but meanwhile no official word had reached him about a date for starting home.

Pfc. Clarence Laird is on the island of Saipan, at his new A.T.C. Base, after being in Hawaii since last October. He says he is always on the lookout for a familiar face.....Cpl. Parvin R. ("Pud") Stryker, Jr. (Marines) reports a change of address and thinks another may be coming very soon as he is at a Marine transit center. Recently, he was taking special work in readiness for Intelligence Division activity.Pvt. Orville Carkhuff, Jr. (Infantry) is now in Hawaii, after training at Camp Wheeler, Ga.

Tom Pancoast (Air Corps) is now at Keesler Field, Miss., beginning his service in the Army about a month ago. He's mastered the art of assembling a machine-gun while blindfolded as part of his training, he reports....Colon H. Smith, A/S, who was taking V-12 training at Mass. Tech, Boston, is now at Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y.John G. Webster, A/S, former Hopewell boy and better known as Jack, has been shifted from Yale to the Hospital Staff at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Brooklyn.

In a communication from China, Pfc. Wilbur U. Hurley, of Stoutsburg, who is with a medium bomber squadron, states: "Keeping us busy and doing a lot of damage when the weather allows us to do so." He continues: "Things all right around here. Nice and warm here today; never gets over 85 degrees and rain nearly every day as this is our monsoon season....We play a lot of sports in our spare time; helps pass the time away and keep us in good condition." His outfit is part of the 14th Air Force and known as the "Bombing Bulldogs."

Cpl. John W. Flagg, reported most recently as being on Iwo Jima with a Fighter Squadron, writes: "It's hard telling what these Japs will do; I suppose they will hold out until the last man, but they are sure getting a work-over now. I don't know how long they'll stand up under it but I hope it isn't long. I'd like to get back to Hopewell some of these days before I'm an old man."

Pfc. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) finds Hawaii and Pearl Harbor considerably to his liking. Writing on July 6th, he said: "It's raining here today just as it has been the last few days. We have an outdoor theater here, or should I say a screen and some wooden benches but the rain doesn't keep the guys away from it. We just sit there with raincoats on, because there's nothing else to do around here evenings. I never would have thought of sitting in the rain to see a movie a little while ago." On the Fourth of July, he

located Ken Hullfish, at the Pearl Harbor Ship Repair Unit, Harry having hitch-hiked into town. They had dinner together, and the holiday menu included fried chicken, apple pie and ice cream. Harry adds: "Now I know how a sailor must feel when he's in an Army camp. The Navy and the Army are so different that it's fun to compare them." Harry also told of going ice-skating on an indoor rink in Hawaii, but described it as "a small and bumpy rink," with water on top of the ice, making it nice for those who fell down. With pineapple fields so plentiful, his outfit calls itself the "Pineapple Artillery," having been on the island for eight months.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to

- Earl C. Bartlett--Aug. 29
- Albert H. Benson--Aug. 26
- Kenneth R. Burroughs--Aug. 23
- Thomas G. Bregenzer--Aug. 25
- George A. Housel--Aug. 26
- Wilbur Lowe--Sept. 10
- Eden L. Snook--Sept. 6
- Paul Stryker--Sept. 2
- Harold Van Lieu--Aug. 29

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

George J. Myers, Jr. CSK, writing from Guam, says he has had several enjoyable visits with Robert McLaughlin, assigned to a Fleet Hospital on the same island. Joseph Bregenger's ship, on which he is Sl/o, also was there for a few hours early in July and Joe and Bob visited, but Myers is hoping that he will have the same opportunity before too long. Myers' brother-in-law, "Chub" Burroughs, from Pennington, recently arrived for duty at Leyte in the Philippines and says he is satisfied with his work. Speaking of meetings, Cpl. Stanley "Bucky" Runyon (Infantry) was in his Mess Hall at Sachsenhausen, Germany, on June 17th when told that someone had come to see him, and there was Pfc. James S. Brizell (Engineers). It developed that they were stationed only 30 miles apart.

Pvt. James Bregenger is now stationed in Labrador, doing radio weather report work for the Army Air Corps--quite a change from the heat of Texas where he had been at Sheppard Field. T/4 V. Leroy Skillman, who had been stationed at Camp Lee, Va., has been transferred to Camp Edwards, Mass. where he is reclassifying wounded veterans at the General Hospital there. Sgt. John W. Dilts, who came home from India on furlough, is now in Georgia, although he made a special trip back home about a week ago when his Mother was rushed to the hospital for an emergency operation. Joe Klinka, of East of the Borough, has been about renewing acquaintances, coming up from either Md. or Delaware. A/T William H. Boozer is now at Maxwell Field, Ala., taking pre-flight training with the Army Air Force. With the Atlantic Fleet aboard a destroyer escort is Richard Esche, Jr. MM3/c.

Robert E. Lowe, S2/o is at Newport, R.I., working out as a cook and awaiting assignment to a ship. Cpl. Donald C. Dilts has been reported at a staging area in France, about a quarter-mile from the English Channel. A/T Paul A. Ashton is rejoicing because his group has been reinstated in the Air Cadet program with specialized training to follow, and probable transfer from Ellington Field, Texas. Paul, taking private flying lessons in his off-time, soloed recently and was more than happy to buy the cokes for all who had seen his solo flight--an old custom. Pvt. Robert Adams is at Parris Island, S.C., having enlisted in the Marines June 21st. He spent three of his first four weeks in the hospital due to an infected foot.

CHURCH EVENTS

Rev. Raymond A. Gray, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, left immediately after conducting yesterday's union service for Ocean Park, Maine, to serve for two weeks as a counsellor at the Baptist Royal Ambassadors' Camp. The Vacation Bible School (three churches cooperating) finished up on July 20th, and while enrollment dropped to about 75, the plan to hold one department in each church worked out quite satisfactorily. Hot-airpipes in the Sunday School room of Calvary Baptist Church have been removed, making the room look much larger. During one of many recent electrical storms, fuses in the church were blown out. Quite a rivalry has developed among some of the younger girls for the privilege of wheeling the coach or taking care of Mary Elizabeth, 10-months' old daughter of the Grays. The good old apple tree in the parsonage yard has been giving Mrs. Gray a regular morning job picking up the "windfalls"--some of which were converted into applesauce.

EDITION SPONSORS

The well-wishers for the "Hopewell News" and those on the receiving end never seem to grow fewer in numbers. The generous help in underwriting the cost of paper, ink, stencils and postage continues to carry the enterprise along. Those giving such assistance recently include: Mrs. William Bregenger, Mrs. Harry Hall, A. G. Stotzer, Mrs. Marie Titus, Mrs. Hart Cromwell, Mrs. Lester VanDyke, Mrs. Cecil Smith, Miss Ida Stefoni, Rev. and Mrs. Goodwin Webster, "Pat" Laird, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Holcombe and Mrs. Irene Adam Cray.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Boy Scouts of Troop #26 were camping for a week along the Raritan River near Three Bridges and had some anxious moments when flood waters followed a storm. Mrs. Keturah Pierson, oldest person living in Hopewell, died July 22nd, at the age of 97. She had been in failing health for some time. A hunch that it would be well to return home during a recent heavy shower probably saved the home of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Terhune, Blawenburg, from destruction by fire. They found a blaze had started in the living room, apparently due to lightning setting fire to a lamp. Hopewell firemen went to the rescue. James A. Macpherson's car hit a pole at Stoutsburg, his arm being fractured and tongue out so severely that 15 stitches were required. A fallen "live" wire caused alarm recently, being down near a gas tank at Norman Blackwell's garage. Current was shut off and the East End of town had scanty light service until 1 A. M. Donald M. Allen is going to Michigan for two weeks on a scholarship awarded to him to represent New Jersey A-H clubs.

IN CLOSING

Looks as if it's time to sign off again. If you read this news-letter for the jokes, sorry that you haven't fared so well this time. Space hasn't permitted, although I wouldn't want folks to think I was posing as a wit--for they say the fellow who thinks he a wit is usually half right. So--best of luck, carry on, best wishes.

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

VOL. III, No. 12

Hopewell, N.J., August 24, 1945

43rd Issue

DAY OF VICTORY

Victory! Peace! Wonderful peace--too wonderful to accept as a reality. And with it, the prospect of joyous home-comings, a civilian suit of clothes, a job and a return to normal living. Yes, it's really true--all that and much more.

August 14, 1945--a date that you'll remember as long as you live, the day when Japan capitulated, little more than three months after Nazi Germany was overwhelmed.

Supreme joy that changed to tears at thoughts of the sacrifice of life and the wounds borne; hilarious shouts of joy and solemn prayers that world brotherhood be firmly established and maintained; deafening noises to ring out a note of triumph and an awful hush in homes where a brave lad went out and will not return; war, ghastly and leaving its scar upon nations and men--then peace, to be permanent and as wonderful as it seemed in the first hours after President Truman proclaimed Japan's surrender, only if individuals decide that their daily lives will be based on Christian ideals put into every-day practice.

Peace--hard-won, but peace--may we cherish it dearly!

HOPEWELL CELEBRATES

As throughout the world, the suspense in Hopewell during the final hours before the full surrender was announced, became terrific. Clustered around radios, the chief question was "Is this really IT?" But finally there came the word that released all the pent-up emotions--and the big celebration was under way.

However, Hopewell had its fair share of premature "flashes." About 8 A.M. on Friday, the 10th, the fire siren and church bells signaled that it was all over--but it was all a mistake. Again on Sunday night, about 10 P.M., the fire siren set up its wail. In a moment of uncertainty as to whether it was a fire alarm or a signal of peace, one Junior Fireman appeared in his pajamas.

But Tuesday night was something else! When the President's announcement was flashed at 7 o'clock, the fire siren, church bells and every auto horn and noise-maker in town joined in a terrific din that lasted well into the night. Immediately the streets filled with oars and people. A parade started like a spontaneous combustion. Flags appeared everywhere. The two fire trucks joined cars--estimated as numbering 100 or more--and the parade wended its way up and down practically every street in the Borough. Every car was jammed with occupants, shouting, ringing bells and blowing horns. Spectators on the corners waved flags, shouted, and some cried. Pots and pans really took a banging that night. One old Ford coupe contained two fellows seated on the lowered top and shooting off a shotgun. The empty shells were picked up by those along the curb as souvenirs of the occasion. Boys riding the fire trucks put on over-sized fire hats and tried to look dignified. Fire-crackers appeared from somewhere and added to the din. The fire siren had eased off, but a group of men and boys took turns pounding the old iron wheel on the Borough Hall grounds--used years ago as a fire alarm signal. When one tired, another took his place and that continued far into the night.

After the parade, boys gathered boxes and light wood and started a victory bonfire on the school grounds. It was decided to build a bigger fire the following night. The kids got hored old furniture, boxes, railroad ties, baby carriages--even a "half-moon" house. The match was to be applied at 9 P.M. but the temptation was too great and some of the more eager set it off ahead of time. It seemed as if all the children in town were there--and in the midst of it all, a false fire alarm was turned in. The Junior firemen went racing to the Fire House, found it was all a mistake and then back again to the school grounds, where Tojo in effigy was burned.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE CELEBRATION

A large fire-cracker was set off in front of a car as it passed the bank. The driver stopped, jumped out and looked at his tires, then drew a sigh of relief... When one car in the parade went by with cans clattering behind it, a youngster said: "Geo, Mom, somebody's just got married!"....A part of a large lumber wagon was abandoned on Lafayette Street (Hallows'en style) after the parade....And on Thursday night a few boys took shots at street lights as a final fling at celebrating.

WHEN THE TIDE TURNED

When did the course of events turn against Japan? Looking back over three years' service in the Pacific with the Fifth Air Force, Cpl. Robert O. Lawson, husband of Mrs. Margaret Lawson, former teacher at the Elementary School, believes that the battle of the Bismarck Sea off New Guinea early in 1943 rates as the turning point. It was too close for comfort, as far as Lawson was concerned, he being in New Guinea. The Japanese were attempting to get a convoy through with troops to reinforce their advance on Port Moresby, with its imminent threat to Australia. A three-day battle swirled over the Bismarck Sea, with three Jap transports sunk, another damaged and 133 Jap planes destroyed or damaged. If the troops had been landed, Lawson believes that New Guinea would have been lost. The battle also crystallized the hatred of the Japs, he says, as an American plane that came down amid the Japanese convoy was machine-gunned. As a result, American planes searched the Bismarck Sea for a week, destroying everything and everybody that had escaped death or destruction up to that point. In later months, Lawson moved up to the island of Owl, north of Biak off the northeast coast of New Guinea, and then to Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines.

Lawson is now at Camden, Delaware, expecting to be discharged soon, as he had 106 points to his credit.

PARTS MADE FOR ATOMIC BOMB

Employees of the H. A. Smith Company helped to make parts that were connected with the perfection of the atomic bomb, it is reported. Since the atomic bomb is credited with hastening Japan's decision to surrender, some may well say "I helped to polish off Japan." It is also understood that the factory produced parts for flame-throwers used effectively in the island campaigns.

Incidentally, did you hear about the boy who, having heard so much about the atomic bomb, rubbed his stomach and groaned: "I feel terrible, Mom, I think I've a-tomic ache!"

TRIBUTE TO FRANKLIN HILL

Three letters paying a final tribute to Pvt. Franklin V.D. Hill, of the Fourth Marine Division, who was killed on Iwo Jima February 19th, are now in the possession of his wife, Mrs. Ethel M. Hill, of West Prospect Street. Two came from his commanding officers and another from a Navy chaplain.

According to Lieut. Wilbur F. Simlik, Frank "was killed instantly the morning of Feb. 19, the morning we assaulted the beach on Iwo Jima. The severest fighting in the history of the Marine Corps took place on that beach that morning. We were able to drive the Japs from their strong positions because men like your husband had the courage to move forward." He added that Frank had been laid to rest in the 4th Marine Division Cemetery on Iwo Jima "with his fallen comrades." The exact location of the grave was given. He stated, along with Chaplain W. V. Johnson, that a Christian funeral service was conducted with individual rites, and with a Division Memorial service at the dedication of the cemetery.

Colonel J. R. Lanigan, Commanding Officer, stated that Frank was "a man I relied on, whose loyalty could never be doubted." Lieut. Simlik also stated that Frank was "a fine man and a good Marine," and added: "Few units have ever been asked to do the job that we did on Iwo Jima. Our success was made possible only through the grace of God and the courage of men like your husband. We, the survivors, pledge to you that your husband shall not have died in vain."

TWO V-J SERVICES HELD

Union services in connection with V-J Day were held in Hopewell on Thursday, Aug. 16th, and Sunday, Aug. 19th, the latter to observe the day of prayer and thanksgiving proclaimed by the President. At the service in the Methodist Church for the community, Rev. Harold Fuss spoke of the appalling power of the atomic bomb; how to some minds it dwarfed their conception of the omnipotence of God, while to others it had the opposite effect, making God seem so great in comparison to all previous conceptions that there was danger in one feeling that man might be too small to be noticed by so great a Creator.

Again at the Sunday day-of-prayer service, held in the Presbyterian Church with 185 attending, the atomic bomb was discussed. Dr. Edward Jurji, stated supply, termed it "the landmark of a new era" and "an ultimatum to end all ultimatums." With so much power placed in the hands of so few, he declared that "Man must make peace or perish." He continued: "How do we begin? By accepting Him and His word. No force save Christianity can bind the world together."

SLIGHTLY MIXED

Somebody really muddled up the facts about a group of young fellows who were staying at the Hopewell House at the beginning of the Summer. The story circulated that they had come here from a "reform school." Learning that they were working at the Kingston quarry, one resident phoned there to make inquiry. Then it developed that the fellows were from a "prep" school, and as members of the preparatory school's football team were conditioning themselves for the Fall season. Their school was described as far removed from the "reform school" class. The group, incidentally, found the work was really rugged and left, but another group soon followed.

RETURNING SWIFTLY

Military personnel is moving homeward rapidly these days. A complete list is difficult to obtain, but here is the general picture:

Returned and Discharged

Pfc. David Danberry
T/Sgt. Joseph M. Castoro
Sheldon W. Embley, S1/c
George O. Phillips, SFl/c
S/Sgt. Lester H. Rooks
Pfc. Earl Zirkler
A. Scott Dansberry, Jr.

Both David Danberry and Earl Zirkler hold the Purple Heart, Danberry being wounded in North Africa and Zirkler (husband of the former Marian Laning) in Sicily....Sheldon Embley has been on duty at the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot at Dover, N.J.

Phillips saw Pacific action with an AKA ship and is a veteran of two wars....Rooks had been in the Army four years, spending three overseas in the Signal Corps....Scott Dansberry, Jr. was discharged from the Navy because of disability after serving 25 days at Bainbridge, Md. He says he didn't even have time to become a sea-going land-lubber, but acquired some experience in washing windows and polishing floors...Zirkler and his wife have been visiting her mother, Mrs. Lou Etta Laning, but plan to go to Minnesota to visit his parents....Joe Castoro, who served with the First Armored Tank Corps had been overseas 41 months out of 47 months in the Army and had seven battle stars--and a bride. Yes, he met and married a girl from Florence, Italy, and she plans to come to this country as soon as arrangements can be made.

Erwin Benson, the paratrooper, reached home on the 23rd with a 32-day furlough before reporting to Camp Mackall, N.C.

Returned on Furlough or Enroute

Cpl. Erwin W. Benson
Cpl. Hugh H. Devlin
Cpl. Edgar A. Dormer
Pfc. James H. Hall
Sgt. William Henrie
James Nickerson
Sgt. William H. Terhune
Lt. Col. Eugene H. Turner
Sgt. Leonard W. Vandewater
Pfc. Orville A. Wyckoff
Cpl. Frank Zuccarello

BOY'S DEATH CAUSES SADNESS

All who knew Jordan Bodine, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bodine, have been deeply saddened because of his untimely and sudden death. "Jordy" became seriously ill about a week ago and died two days later, after being taken to the hospital and placed in an oxygen tent without avail. An autopsy showed that acute heart attacks had been caused by a blood-clotting condition. His brother, Pvt. William R. Bodine was notified at Lowry Field, Colorado, and was able to fly to Newark aboard a bomber, arriving in time for the funeral.

REPORT ON THE EIGHT BEALKOWSKIS

It's time to bring you up to date about the Bealkowskis, the family at has eight sons in the service. Here we go--Sgt. William has been in India for 16 months with a heavy bombardment outfit that aided in the Burmese defeat of Japanese troops. Cpl. Frank was in Germany where his outfit was the famous "Red Ball Express" transporting supplies from French harbors to the forward areas, and later moving into Belgium and Germany. Sgt. Alex is in England, his outfit being a hospital unit with two years in that country. Edward, S1/c is in the Merchant Marine, delivering goods to all parts of the world. Bruno, P2/c is on a destroyer in the Pacific and was in the task force that bombarded the Japanese coast. A/C Joseph expected to be commissioned after training as a B-29 engineer. Cpl. Zigmund, who was in the parachute division that landed on Corregidor has been in the Philippines. Stanley, S1/c is at radio school in Chicago with the Navy.

POLIO PRECAUTIONS

With more than 70 cases of polio (infantile paralysis) in the Trenton area, certain precautions have been exercised here. Church schools were suspended for the month of August, and swimming pools shut down. However, a ban on children entering stores and public places has not been imposed in Hopewell, as in Trenton and practically all nearby communities. Many parents are exercising proper precautions in the absence of official action.

Two cases adjacent to the Borough have developed. Claude W. Emmons, well-known farmer and Ration Board member, was stricken and died after three days' illness. He was 41 years of age. The nature of his illness was not apparent at the outset and when rushed to the hospital in Trenton, only a short time elapsed before death occurred. His wife and two children survive. In addition to his farm just east of the Borough, Emmons also had a large farm in Pennsylvania. A second case of polio involved Richard Seigal, 7, who was at Camp Harmony, on the Woodsville Rd, when taken ill.

STILL CALLING

Although the war is over, it isn't over as far as Marvin Allen, 18, of Hamilton Avenue, is concerned. For he went into military service today. He was called by Selective Service, although he previously had enlisted in the Navy, by whom he had not been called as yet....And Capt. Robert Moyer, who had been at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., started on July 8th for the Pacific area.

With the invasion of Germany and the overwhelming of Japan taking top position in the news, few people are aware of the amazing work carried through successfully in regaining possession of Burma from the Japs.

A portion of the story was told in a recent letter from Cpl. John "Jack" F. Van Lieu, serving with the First Combat Cargo group. He is now at Myitkyina, Burma, and has been sending his wife some Jap equipment. One day a large Jap sword arrived, a helmet the next day and then a 25 calibre Jap rifle. As she expressed it, "If this keeps up, I'll be able to open a supply depot real soon."

"I understand we have broken some records when it comes to Air Supply," Jack states....The invasion of Rangoon was largely our show as far as towing gliders and dropping men and supplies...The European war tended to eclipse our war here but nevertheless there have been things undertaken successfully here that previous would be the dream of a mad man. For instance, imagine someone suggesting a few years ago that an army could operate efficiently without a line of communications or supply to the rear. This is exactly what was done by the British 14th Army. It knifed its way through Jap positions, drove deeply behind their lines unhampered by long lines of communications or roads crowded by convoys. Neither did they worry about being 'cut off' by the Japs for they were supplied entirely by air. Just imagine a whole army supplied by air....The 1st Combat Cargo Group claims a large share of the credit for the success of this never-before-attempted type of campaign."

BARBER-SHOP BLUES

How would you like a Japanese woman barber to cut your hair or give you a shave? Herbert E. Wilson, S1/c (Rdm) reports that you encounter them on the island of Maui, in the Philippines. His ship had anchored at the foot of Haleakala, a mountain "rising from the very water under us up through the clouds to its huge extinct crater 10,000 feet high." The water there was so clear that the ship's chain could be seen all the way down to the anchor embedded in the coral.

"Most of the crew got haircuts from Japanese women barbers," Herb says. Then he continued: "While I am on the subject of barbers, you have never seen so many amateur barbers in all your life as ply their trade on this ship. Since we don't have a skilled barber aboard and since the heat makes a haircut an absolute necessity, everybody and his pal cuts hair. I sure appreciate our barbers at home now."

He also wrote about silhouettes painted on the wing of the bridge to designate enemy subs and planes destroyed, commenting: "We have painted on our bridge one metal mooring buoy and one 50-gallon oil drum which we destroyed enroute here!"

SAW NAZI HORROR CAMPS

T/5 Steve Ruggieri (Engineers Battalion) saw some of the horrors of the Nazi prison camps, it is learned. He declares that "I saw things in those camps that if somebody had told me about it, I would never have believed how terrible it was." Then he added: "Let's thank God that it's over now." Steve had an opportunity to talk to many prisoners who were rescued.

Steve has been at Rheims, France, helping in the processing of fellows enroute home. In fact, he thought when his outfit moved out of Germany that they were coming home without delay. "It was the happiest moment of my life," he says--then he found that they were going to check others through for embarkation. German prisoners do most of the work, he says, but have to be supervised. After seeing the 5th and 45th Divisions go through, Steve said: "It's a heart-break to see fellows go home while I stay here, but I will make it too, very soon, I hope."

C. O.'S AT SKILLMAN

Fifteen men connected with a Civilian Public Service Unit composed of conscientious objectors have been serving as attendants at the Skillman State Village. Through this employment, they receive their maintenance and avoid staying at other C.O. centres where their expenses must be paid by themselves, friends or their home churches. In an article in "Missions" magazine written by one of the men, Carleton Mabee, of Maine--a former teacher and college graduate--it is explained that the jobs at Skillman were taken because "We are drafted conscientious objectors, unwilling to be in the Army, but glad and willing to do what socially useful work we are permitted to do by Selective Service."

CHINESE MONEY

Chinese boys think the American GIs are the richest persons in the world, according to Cpl. Wilbur U. Hurley, serving in China with a Bomb Squadron. The latter have their laundry and cooking done by Chinese, who eat and sleep with the outfit. In paying them, the American dollar is worth \$2,400 in Chinese money and Wilbur adds, "Don't fall over, but it's true." He also says: "When I was home or the farm or working at H.A. Smith's, I never dreamt I'd be in China some day. It's a great experience for me....My ship is named after Ann Sheridan who visited us here early this year. She had her picture taken in the cockpit of my ship, so it's the "Sheridan Express" with numerable missions, but I can't tell you the number."

William H. Wyckoff, SM2/c, writing July 18th at sea aboard a Pacific mine-sweeper, had ~~some to say~~ "My whereabouts at present must remain a secret, but I may say we have been right in the centre of some mighty hot activities." Even while so busy, he says he had not forgotten completely about his friends in Hopewell. He continued: "It can be said that I was at Eniwetok, in the Marshalls; also at Guam in the Marianas group. Previous to that, I was at Pearl Harbor on my way out and saw quite a bit of the island of Oahu." Earlier in the war, Bill was aboard the same vessel for many months of similar duty in the Mediterranean Sea.

Pvt. Orville T. Carkhuff (Infantry) found that things moved pretty fast, after his furlough spent at home in mid-June. By July 20th, or earlier, he was on the island of Oahu, in the Hawaiians! Here's how he described the rapid change: "One week-end I was home, the next at Fort Meade, the next was spent in traveling across country, the next week-end I was near Seattle, Wash; then we found ourselves on the Pacific and by the next week-end we landed here in Hawaii." His camp there, he said, was near mountains over which there always seemed to be a storm. He went on; "Every once in a while the wind blows a mist or light sprinkle over the camp. It rains or sprinkles every night and things are always wet in the morning. We are now sleeping in tents with eight men to one tent. We were camped along the ocean for a couple of days and had a swell time until it came time for chow. We soon got tired of K rations. I had two chances to go swimming in the Pacific and had a swell time. I was in the water one afternoon for four hours...We were on the rifle range and I qualified as a sharpshooter....The camp we are in now is right by a large pineapple field. I haven't had any fresh pineapple, though, as they cost about ten dollars apiece. One fellow was court-martialed and fined ten dollars when caught getting one of them." He also stated that when the "Hopewell News" reached him, he "was so anxious to see what was going on back home that I read it through, using a candle that my buddy got from a 'sarge' even though all lights were supposed to be out."

Katherine Ackerman has received her Sergeant's stripes. She became a WAC more than two years ago and is stationed at Harlingen, Texas. She is a sister of Mrs. Percy Williamson. It's been plenty hot down there since Sgt. Ackerman's stay here in June on furlough. One of her jobs involves the maintenance of records containing addresses, grades, duty, etc. of those in the service, and of course, it's a six-days a week job.

Pfc. Elmer M. Sutphen (AAA Gun Battalion) has five battle stars and the arrowhead denoting the invasion of Normandy. He is in Germany, being "just another one of the guys hoping to get back home as soon as possible."....Cpl. Eden L. Snook (Engineers) is assigned to the Army of Occupation in Germany....likewise, a report comes from Pfc. Joseph Murodda that his Division has been officially assigned to occupational chores. He is at Bremen, where the Bremen Stadium has been re-named as the Eisenhower Stadium. Civilians there have been puzzled by "our strange game" of baseball, he points out, but seem to enjoy it. He adds that on the Fourth of July a sports program and fireworks enabled the GIs to do it up in American fashion..... Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) wrote that the processing of troops enroute to the States continued, his outfit being in charge of a part of Camp Philip Morris. However, he has been given a job painting signs, which must make him feel almost like a civilian again. His buddies have charge of billeting, baggage, special service, feeding and the like. He added that "We have no idea when we will get to go home (writing on July 29th) because this battalion is due for disbanding when we reach the States and we have a very low priority for transportation."

Pfc. Anton Holstrom (S.A.W. Bn.) concluded that he would prefer to go to the CBI or the Pacific, and was shifted to a new outfit, only to be shifted back to his former group. Writing on July 26th, he said he was still near Nurnberg, Germany, with little to do. Every day more fellows were shipping out, but those who remain could use trucks between camp and Nurnberg to enjoy the latter point. With the camp on the top of a hill, the scenery is beautiful with a view for miles around. However, the city of Nurnberg is "pretty well blown apart, he commented. While he had accumulated 70 points, he also had earned five battle stars.

Pfc. Harry ("Hap") J. Errickson was at Gaudenz, Austria, on August 11th and at that time his Division, 11th Armored, expected its de-activation to terminate early in September with hopes of arriving home before Christmas--but it may be that VJ-Day will have some effect on that--perhaps for the better.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to

- Richard Adams--Sept. 21
- Walter E. Breesee--Sept. 23
- Charles A. Bregenzner--Sept. 15
- Robert K. Briggman--Sept. 18
- Nicholas S. Castoro--Sept. 16
- John Devlin--Sept. 18
- Alan T. Hart--Sept. 11
- Wilbur A. Hurley--Sept. 23
- Robert O. Lawson--Sept. 3
- Chester I. Robbins--Sept. 22
- Paul Sinclair--Sept. 27
- Herbert E. Wilson--Sept. 12
- John H. Winant--Sept. 17

Pvt. John Burke Kirby, who was in Italy, France and Germany, is now in England attending school. With a chance to play golf, he found that golf-balls were not at all plentiful, so he wrote to Howard Shanks, who used to work at the Hopewell Valley Golf Club grounds, for a supply... Henry E. Miller, CCM, husband of Mrs. Florence Hart Miller, has received a Purple Heart award, being wounded while at Saipan with the Sesbees. They recently came East from California... Pfc. Angelo N. Castoro is stationed in India with over 2½ years of service. His brother, Sgt. Nicholas S. Castoro is at Newark Airport as a weather observer with the Army.

A/T Paul A. Ashton (Army Air Force) was one of four who served as color guard for the VJ-Day parade at Houston, Texas, in which all troops from Ellington Field, where he is stationed, participated.... Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, and Raymond W. Burd, MM2/c, flew back to California after about three weeks' leave spent at home. They were called back sooner than expected and it is believed that they headed out to sea shortly after getting aboard their APA vessel, a troop-carrying ship... Cpl. Thomas McCandless (Infantry) is on Luzon, Philippines, camped in a coconut grove. He has written of the Jap caves cut in solid rock; the summer capitol, Baguio, built up in the cloud-enshrouded mountains as well as the ruins of Manila and the sunken ships in Manila Bay. However, natives are friendly and clean, he adds. His brother, Pfc. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) has been on Oahu, in the Hawaiian Islands. He says no one would recognize him when he comes back from a field problem after driving over roads covered with several inches of red dust, mixed with the grease and oil from the howitzers... Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew (AGF Band) was home on a two-weeks furlough from Fort Jackson, S.C.... Richard P. Embloy, S1/c, serving on a destroyer escort, was home on 15-day leave recently.

T/5 Thomas J. Faherty has been "sweating out" 84 points, but he regards a recent transfer as "the first step on my return to civilian life."... Lieut. Harold E. Temple, with the Trooper Carrier Command in the Southwest Pacific, has had more than 800 flying hours, with battle stars for the New Guinea and Philippine service... Pfc. Edward J. Kettonburg is now at Truax Field, Madison, Wis., a transfer after a long stay at Craig Field, Alabama.... Donald Gray, who served in the 16th Armored, is now in Berlin after being in two previous armored outfits that were sent home in large part... Hartwell P. Vannoy, who is in Germany, recently underwent a tonsil operation.... John ("Jack") W. Wyckoff, Jr. S1/c (Sp-1) was in from Fallon, Nevada, on furlough from the Navy Air Station there... Cpl. Stanley H. ("Bucky") Runyon, who was in Germany has been having a 21-day furlough overseas.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Miss Betty Weart, who has been employed at the bank, has taken a position with a Trenton jewelry store. Her bank job has been taken by Edna Hunt Creager, who formerly worked there but more recently has been with a Princeton bank... The Eagle Bakery has resumed baking bread, rolls, buns and cake, following completion of renovations after its recent disastrous fire.... Bill Conover, recently released by the Army, is now employed at "H.A.'s."... Traffic through town is much heavier, and that gas rationing is at an end. Housewives also appreciate being able to buy canned fruit and fruit juices without "blue" ration points.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holcombe have a baby boy... Mary Murphy and John Eichenger were married a few days ago at the Catholic Church.... Donald Allen, 2nd, of Center Street, has been enjoying an award of two weeks' campfire at Stony Lake, Michigan, after winning a State-wide 4-H contest. He has been taking a 6.30 A.M. dip in Lake Michigan... Misses Roma Weaver and Margaret Hullfish vacationed at Lake Como, Pa.

SPONSORS

Contributors who have aided recently in financing the "Hopewell News" include Mrs. Percy T. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Cox (former residents) and Miss Mary M. Holcombe.

THITH ITH AWFUL

The editor of a small-town newspaper felt called upon to explain the loss of the letter "S" from his type-setting machine. The item appeared as follows:
 "I thit might thome thneaking thoundrel thtrole into our compothing room and pilfered the cabineth of all the ethoth. Therefore, we would like to take thith opporthunity to apoliths to our roadorth for the general inthipid appearance of your paper. We would altho like to thtate that i- at any time in the yearth to come we thhould thec thith dirty thmake in the grathth about the premitheth it will be our complets and thorough thathithfacton to thoot him full of holoth. Thank you."

IN CLOSING

Hope you've enjoyed having a chance to hear what's doing. If your chance to board a ship for home hasn't come as yet, remember that the "six months" can't possibly last as long as the "duration." Best of luck.

DEAN H. ASHTON

HOPEWELL NEWS

Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher

VOL. III, No. 13

Hopewell, N.J., September 11, 1945

44th Issue

DIVERTED FROM JAPAN

Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard, of the Army Nurses' Corps, had the unique experience of being enroute to Japan--and then diverted into New York Harbor! And was she delighted when the captain of their ship received the order to change his course! At the time, the vessel was about three days from the Panama Canal, with the Pacific crossing due to follow!

Even before the ocean voyage started, Lieut. Sheppard had a hunch that "it may be that the longest way round will be the shortest way home." That's just how it turned out. She has three battle stars on her European campaign ribbon. When sent overseas back in 1943, she went to North Africa. "Things moved fast," she says, and she was there about 11 weeks. Then she went up to Italy and later into France, being at a Station Hospital with all that it signifies in the way of providing care for the wounded. She reports shortly in Alabama, uncertain as to whether she will be retained in the Army or discharged. She had 62 points on V-E Day, while the discharge-level for nurses has been held at 65. In any event, she agrees that it's great to be home.

CURIOUS ABOUT TOKYO

Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, of the 13th Airborne Division Artillery, has a notion that he would like to get a look at Tokyo. He's at home on a furlough right now, after being in France and Germany and more than five years' of Army service to his credit. In fact, when a War Department announcement was published a few days ago stating that the 13th Airborne would be re-deployed, after "screening," Erwin's acquaintances began to ask him whether he had over 45 discharge points--this figure being mentioned as sufficient to keep him in the U.S.A.

"Oh, I have plenty of points," Erwin commented, "but I may decide to volunteer for overseas service. I wouldn't mind seeing what it's like over there." The Division is due to reassemble early in October at Fort Bragg, N.C.

"SCOOPED" THE GENERAL

Cpl. Robert O. Lawson "scooped" General Douglas MacArthur when it came to stating--in the last issue of "Hopewell News"--that the Battle of Bismarck Sea in March, 1943, was the decisive Pacific battle that turned the tide. And furthermore, Bob now has his honorable discharge from the Army--although there's no connection between the two events!

But General MacArthur's statement hit the front pages of the daily newspapers on Sept. 3rd, while Lawson had given the same conclusion much earlier! Having been in New Guinea at the time, Bob had "sweated it out" with other troops in the area toward which the Japanese thrust was directed. In recent weeks, Lawson had been stationed at Camden, Delaware, awaiting word as to whether his three years' of overseas duty had earned him his discharge. Then came the glad news. He expects to resume his college studies, probably up in New England, and for that reason, his wife has resigned from the Elementary School faculty here.

STILL WORRIED ABOUT POINTS

S/Sgt. Harold "Butch" Johnson, who used to "slice it thin" or "grind it up" just as you happened to order it back in the days when meat was plentiful and he worked in the American Store here, is back at his old trade. However, he is now butchering in New Hope, Pa. He came home recently after about two years with a Bomb Group in England, keeping Flying Fortresses in condition.

As if he hadn't heard enough about points (for discharge) when he was in the Army, he has to battle with them every day now--the red ones required of customers if and when meat is available. "I just can't seem to get used to them," Johnson declares.

Prior to his return to this country, he was diverted down to Casablanca, North Africa, to assist with planes being used by the Air Transport Command to bring troops home from that area.

POLIO QUARANTINE

Residents here are hoping that the polio ban, placed in effect in Hopewell during the last week in August, can be lifted soon. Reopening of school has been deferred to Sept. 24th because of it, Sunday Schools remain closed, while attendance in the churches and movie house has been sharply reduced. Children under 16 are forbidden to enter the stores or gather in groups of any sort.

A lot of boys in town are wondering when they will be able to get their next hair-cut. Some parents have been doing a little work with the scissors, but most of them agree that "There's more to cutting hair than I thought." As for the movies, one woman was heard to remark "It's funny not to see a lot of kids in the movies." However, the extended vacation from school seems to have a strong appeal.

With a ban in effect throughout this area generally, some parents discovered that if they took their children elsewhere for a day's outing, it frequently was difficult to find an eating place where youngsters were welcome.

However, the absence of any cases in Hopewell Borough has been encouraging although nearly 600 have occurred in the State, largely in the Passaic and Trenton districts.

FIRST FLIGHT OVER TOWN

While home for a brief furlough, Cpl. Paul A. Ashton (Army Air Force) decided he would like to get a glimpse of Hopewell from the air. He has been taking private instruction down in Texas in his spare time, deciding to do that when the Air Cadet program faded out. With about 10 hours of flying time since his first solo, Paul obtained a plane at Princeton Airport and flew back over town. He "gummed" the plane's engine a few times to identify himself, but kept at the proper altitude.

His promotion to Corporal came about the same time that he was notified at Ellington Field, Texas, of his transfer to Amarillo, Texas, to begin a course in Airplane Engine Mechanics. Shortly before that, he had five days at Hobbs Field, New Mexico, when planes and personnel were evacuated from the Houston area because of a serious hurricane in the vicinity. During his "delay enroute" following word of his change of location to Amarillo, Paul had three days at home, after which he flew back in a Navy plane going from Mercer Field, West Trenton, for delivery on the West Coast.

PURCHASES STORE

Ed Schanok, who used to work as a butcher in Weart's Market, has purchased the ~~Edler's~~ store business on Seminary Avenue. In recent months, Schanok had been employed at Eastern Aircraft, where an extensive lay-off occurred following V-J Day. Apparently, he and Edling lost no time in coming to terms, for the change of proprietorship was sudden.

Russell Leming's store on Broad Street closed when he decided to take a little vacation, and word has come that he suffered a stroke after getting as far as Connecticut on an auto trip. An effort may be made to hasten his son's release from the Army so he can run the store.

GINTERS GO TO TEXAS

Captain John Ginter, Chaplain in the Army Air Force, was in town for a brief stay, after which he and his wife and son, Donald, returned to Texas by auto. They anticipated remaining there if his duties at Perrin Field continue indefinitely.

On the day after their departure, their older son, Jack, began his service in the Navy, being sent to Bainbridge, Md. Jack had been kept on the anxious seat for weeks, with some likelihood that his call from the Navy might come after Selective Service had notified him to report. Then suddenly Jack received two sets of Navy orders--one dated September, 1944, and the other more correctly. One directed him to report on Sept. 4th and the other on Sept. 7th--so Jack made a fast trip to New York where he was told that he was due on the 4th. And report he did.

DOG'S FRIEND PASSES AWAY

For several years, it was a familiar sight to see an elderly man walking around town with a Scottie dog on a leash. Many people did not know him by name, nor were they aware that the pet didn't really belong to him. But the man, Wilfred M. Putt, a retired B.& O. baggage-master, has now passed away and the dog-and-friend scene also has come to an end.

Mr. Putt had lived until about a month ago at the home of George Haigh, on North Greenwood Avenue. But Mrs. Haigh's illness made it necessary for Mr. Putt to seek another home, and he boarded at the Amos Williamson's when he died. The Scottie dog had belonged to the Haighs, and Mr. Putt had delighted in taking the dog out for daily exercise. Mr. Putt was 87 years old and came to Hopewell after his retirement.

LIKES TO GO ALONG

Newell Holcombe has a steer (beef on the hoof) that developed the notion it was supposed to go along when his cows were taken in at night to be milked. So the steer followed along, even to standing in a stall while the others were milked. More recently, the steer got out of Holcombe's meadow and when discovered, it was grazing on his front lawn.

What do you get from bees? Honey--and some vicious stings, as "Doc" Amos Stults and Walter Sinclair can well testify. They've had an intimate acquaintance with bees since last Spring when a swarm strayed into town from somewhere and "lived up" in front of the Post Office. Stults and Sinclair decided to keep the bees. The bees have been making a lot of honey so the two men decided it would be well to divide the hive.

"Doc" Stults tackled the job alone but got chasod. He concluded that he would garb himself to be fully protected, so he put on boots, tucked his pants inside, donned a straw hat covered with mosquito netting that came down to shield his neck, and added a pair of gloves. Then he called Sinclair. Together, they advanced on the hive but a moment later, Sinclair was chased a respectable distance away. However, "Doc" went ahead with the job, ignoring the bees swarming around him. But when he began to do a little lifting, raising his arms, the bees were able to get under the mosquito netting. Then the bees went to work.

In fact, the bees were ready to chase anybody within range and one swarm took after Sinclair, while others concentrated on Stults. Sinclair tried to fight them off, while Doc was shouting out his ideas about the oussedness of bees. The excitement began to attract passersby. Even Sinclair's dog was singled out as a target for the bees, so Sinclair cut his rope so he could run ki-yi-ing away.

Mrs. Sinclair, it is reported, came out the kitchen door with a camera to take a picture of "Doc" Stults in his outlandish rig. But about that time, her husband headed for the kitchen, but she, seeing so many bees around him, locked the door so he wouldn't bring them inside with him. In fact, the sight of the two men and the dog trying to free themselves from the bees set her to laughing--until she became so weak that she slipped down to the floor alongside the washing machine, and when the excitement had died down, it was first feared that she had been taken ill--from laughing.

Meanwhile, what about "Doc"? They say the bees had stung him until his eyes stood out straight from his head--while Sinclair presented a most unusual sight, dashing around with boos, by the dozen, clinging to the seat of his pants, and inflicting more stings every minute.

Finally, the "keepers of the bees" recovered, however, and sought some advice about approved methods of moving bees. Then they used smoko as an aid and accomplished their purpose.

SOMEWHAT DELAYED

Last Fall, the folks at home were reminded many times to mail Christmas packages by Oct. 15th to assure delivery to the fellows overseas. But there were delays in some cases, of course. Take the case of Raymond W. Burd, MM2/c, for instance. He was somewhere on the Pacific--for 15 months, in fact, before his ship returned in June to Portland, Oregon--and the Christmas package couldn't seem to catch up to him.

But Portland, Oregon, was different, and the package was brought to him there one fine day in June! A can of tuna fish was unspoiled, and the same could be said for handkerchiefs, but the remainder of the package had seen better days.

Ray and his buddy, Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, headed out on the Pacific again and were in Pearl Harbor six days later. They are serving on a troop carrier--attack vessel and there appears to be some likelihood that, instead of carrying troops for invasions, they will be helping to bring the Army back home.

SO GOES TEXAS

Pvt. Arthur Yard, who is at Borgstrom Field, Austin, Texas, is ready to agree that some things about Texas are a bit confusing. For instance, when Japan offered to surrender and President Truman announced it, Governor Coke Stevenson, of Texas, said: "It looks like we will have to go along with the Commander-in-chief." And a Texas-born Navy officer wired home to ask where it had been arranged "for our great state to be represented when General MacArthur presents the surrender terms to the Japanese?" After reading that, Arthur Yard said: "All the more reason I think us guys in Texas should get two points a month, instead of one!"

PRIZES UNIT CITATION

Cpl. Tech. Ira Allen finds as an "M.P." that "there is just as much or more work than there was before the war ended." He is now stationed at Heidelberg, Germany, with the 7th Army. He adds: "It seems our duties continue even though the most of us have over 85 points and have served overseas over three years. But perhaps the day will come soon so that we can head back for the States and--best of all--be civilians age in."

Allen's 450th Military Police Company was awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque "for superior performance of duty" between Dec. 31 and March 15, 1945. The citation pointed out that the enemy attempted to infiltrate disguised saboteurs and agents by parachute and captured American vehicles. The "M.P." Company responded to all calls and alarms, its "investigations were thorough" with the result that "security of the command was maintained at the highest level." The Company also was lauded for its excellent morale, soldierly appearance, courage and efficiency.

RAILROAD WIDENS ROAD-BED.

Some speculation has been heard around town about the work being done along the Reading Railroad tracks between Fennington and Ewing. While it appeared as if extra tracks might be laid, it is understood that the removal of embankments is designed to improve drainage in that section. At intervals in the past, flood damage has occurred and interfered with rail traffic.

VANDEWATER RETURNS

Sgt. Leonard W. Vandewater (Infantry) has arrived in the U.S., coming into New York last Friday. He had been in France and Germany with the 76th Division, and received a Purple Heart after being wounded by a sniper's bullet.

HAPPY MEETINGS

Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr. (now in the Adj. Sec. of the Marines in the Pacific) had a get-together with G. Kenneth Hullfish, MM3/c, at Pearl Harbor recently. Cf "Ken," Parvin said "He looks fine but a little thinner than what I remembered him at home." He added that they were planning "to pitch one" soon, and then explained that to mean "Liberty--to you' civies."

A chance meeting also brought Pfc. John Garrett Conover into touch with Sgt. John Totten, of Ringoes. The surprise occurred at Lille, France. The top sergeant was reading the roster and when he called Garrett's name, directed him to wait. Garrett wondered what was due to happen, but a few moments later Totten introduced himself. He said he had been overseas 28 months. The pair had quite a talk together, the conversation revealing that Garrett's Mother and Mrs. Totten having gone to Sunday School and church together.

V-J DAY REACTIONS

Letters have been coming through telling of the V-J Day reaction among the fellows serving at distant spots. According to Herbert E. Wilson, Rdm 3/c, the false rumor set off a celebration aboard his ship in the Pacific, with rockets shot in the air, fellows hugging each other and lights turned on that previously had been kept out. Then came official word "and we are all very thankful for that," he writes. He adds: "I'm anxious to return and begin again to live a normal life."

"I'm sure glad the war has ended and I hope and pray there will never be another," writes Pfc. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) from Oahu, of the Hawaiian Islands group.

Cpl. Edward H. Escho, who is at Luzon, in the Philippines, writes: "I believe that we celebrated less than the people back home." And T/Sgt. C. R. "Reg" Hurley (Coast Artillery) who also is far out in the Pacific, says: "I can well imagine how the people back home have celebrated our victory in having civilization again rule the world. We had our own little celebration over here also. My heart is so light now. Even though I do not know how soon I shall be able to get home, at least I know that this terrible conflict is over and there will be many more thousands of boys that will be able to get home safely. I have been very fortunate and I know just how lucky I have really been."

ENCOUNTERED "SUICIDE" PLANE

Air attacks directed at ships are described graphically in a letter from Herbert E. Wilson, Rdm 3/c, who also was permitted to reveal that a Japanese "suicide plane" pilot tried to crash into his APD ship. He writes:

"Now it can be revealed that we did our part at Okinawa before its capitulation. Some of us heard General Simon Bolivar Buckner call the Jap general over the radio in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent further useless bloodshed by surrendering. We saw our GI mortar fire exploding along the rim of the hills as star-shells illuminated the Jap fox-holes and caves beyond. We saw our battleships and cruisers lazily cruise along the coast in utter defiance of Japanese military strength and pound at the enemy lines with their big guns in support of our ground forces.

"We will never forget our first nights of air attacks when we heard unseen Jap planes fly low over us and when we joyously and breathlessly saw a night fighter splash a large enemy bomber which burned in bright orange flames on the water in the dark, several miles astern of us. Sleep? What was sleep when routed out of our bunks several times during the night to man our battle stations for another alert? Some of us manned our stations so often that we ran into ourselves coming off watch.

"Our practice earlier in sinking 55-gallon cans came in handy one morning about 1.15 A.M. when a Jap plane flying low tried to crash into us. Fortunately we saw him first and shot him down in flames, thereby contributing another 'good' dead Jap to the cause. So all the prayers for us have been answered."

SPONSORS

Assistance on the financial end of the "Hopewell News" has come in recent days from the following: C. A. Holstrom (Marshall's Corner); Miss Grace Messineo, Robert Williamson, Mrs. Walter Brocco and Mrs. Edward G. Rinz.

ENCLOSURE

The sheet enclosed outlining assistance available to returning veterans is sent to you because of a special request directed to the Editor of "Hopewell News."

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe, Jr. (Infantry) reported recently at Asheville, North Carolina, for further duty. He had enjoyed a 73-day furlough following his return from Germany where he had been interned in a prisoner-of-war camp....S/Sgt. Alan F. Hart was married on August 25th at Bangalore, India, to Miss Barbara Curtis Drake, a Red Cross worker serving in that country. Her home is in Brockton, Mass. They became acquainted in India. Plans for the wedding had been held up until her transfer to the same locality in which he has been stationed.

The rigors of life aboard an LST on Pacific duty is revealed to some slight degree in word from J. Hilbert Hurley (of Stoutsburg) that 22 men in their crew lost their lives in action....For John W. Flagg, there's been a change in rank, and he is now a Sergeant in the 47th Fighter Squadron. He was based on Iwo Jima when the war ended....Lieut. William G. Lowe is now at Florence, South Carolina, following his recent graduation from Navigation School at the Army Air base, Selman Field, La.

Arch Litzen, AMM2/c, is hopeful of getting home "in the not too remote future." A Navy Aviation Machinist's Mate, he is aboard a carrier in the Pacific, after an earlier tour of duty aboard the carrier, "Bataan." His present ship, while enroute west to join other units of the fleet, conducted a one-day "nuisance strike" on the Jap-held base on Wake Island. Arch said that while it had long been isolated, it still looked very much alive.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- to
- Frank P. Bealkowski--Oct. 10
 - Grover Cleveland Bodine--Oct. 15
 - Bruce H. Cray--Oct. 10
 - Robert I. Hill--Sept. 27
 - B. Carl Hillman--Oct. 8
 - George C. Koepfel--Oct. 16
 - Harry J. Loveless--Oct. 14
 - Hartwell P. Vannoy--Oct. 2

Pfc. William E. Johnson is working in the Publications Section, Adjutant General's Office, Hq., GERC, in Paris. He describes it as being from his point of view, "the best deal possible in the Army." The job enables him to eat in a French restaurant serving excellent food, while living in the Hotel Chambord on the Champs Elysees, half a block from the Arc de Triomphe. Writing to his folks, he said: "Get a pic of the Arc de Triomphe and imagine your son walking to breakfast every morning, looking up at it with a satisfied grin on his face." He also revealed that some time back he met a Negro soldier who knew Oscar Hodnett--in fact he had managed and trained Oscar for boxing in the Army. He said that Oscar was unbeatable in the Southern training camps and had a promising future in the ring. Bill added: "Apparently Oscar was very highly thought of as a person by one and all, and I told this boy that we all hold the same opinion of him in Hopewell, too."

Pfc. James S. Brizoll (Engineers) says his outfit has been building an air field in Berlin and it will be the largest in Germany. He likes his job, "because all I do all day is drive a jeep." Hardly a house stands intact in Berlin, he reports, and residents work for their meals. The terrible odor of death hovers, because of bodies that have not been dug out of bombed properties as yet. German civilians "all get three square meals a day" in return for their service, and those who clean up after the Engineers' meals, are permitted to take home what is left over. His group went from Holland to Munster and Waborn, Germany.

Pfc. John Garrett Conover has been transferred out of the 63rd Infantry Division and is now with Hdq. Co., Chanor Base Section, in Brussels, Belgium. He is living in a former university dormitory, with meals served on real dishes--no more mess-kits--by prisoners-of-war. Even breakfast is served in courses, with orange juice, cereal with plenty of milk and sugar, fried eggs with plenty of bacon, coffee and rolls and butter galore, plus a dish of stewed fruit. He likens Brussels to New York City, with prices more reasonable than in France. He has now been in eight countries.

Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) may be enroute home from Camp Home Run, Le Havre, France, where he was on detached service as a message center chief. With "P.W.'s" to do "the dirty work," he said it was a comfortable setup. He was on duty in an old French fort, modernized by the American Army, but still having high buttresses around it and a drawbridge over a moat and a wide archway as the only means of entrance.

Orville Carkhuff is now a PFC, and shifted from the Infantry to the Field Artillery. He has been in Oahu, Hawaiian Islands. While in the Infantry, he was given special training in cave-warfare, but the Japs are now out of business....William J. Ashton is a T/5, assigned to an Infantry Scout Dog Platoon at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo....Pvt. Marvin Allon, who entered service last month, is in the Army Air Force and located at Shepard Field, Texas....Lieut. Harold Temple, pilot in the Troop Carrier Service, has been working around the Philippines, and says there's plenty to be done in his line, so it may be some time before he returns....Sgt. Harold VanDyke, is stationed in France near Paris and says his Army Air Force duties may keep him there for at least a year.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

John M. Cromwell, H.A.S/c, is now at Norfolk, Va., on duty in the Naval Hospital. His duties consist of taking care of sick officers--and playing in the dance orchestra!...William A. Stout (Sp A)1/c, has been home on leave from the Welfare Dept. of the U.S. Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., with his wife and child. Cpl. Stephen V. Kady, who had not been heard from in three months, revealed that he was in the Pacific Zone, after being in Europe with an Ordnance Tire Repair Company, ...John W. Boice, MML/c, who recently returned from overseas, is now at the Phila. Navy Yard...Pfc. Nicholas Guiseppa, who was overseas with an Infantry Medical Detachment, is now at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Cpl. Wilbur U. Hurley, writing from China, is with a Bomb Group that takes pride in having been longest in combat. Wilbur is an aircraft armorer, taking care of all bombardment equipment, including hydraulic and electrical systems and rockets, as well as .50 calibre machine guns, gun sights and electric turrets on B-25's. At the end of the war, "the place went wild here," he says, adding "You never saw such happy boys in your life."

Cpl. Edward H. Escho says he's seen lots of bananas, being in Luzon, in the Philippines. Other fruits are plentiful, too, but he says he cannot say how they taste as he hasn't tried them....Pfc. Harry E. McCandless, with the Field Artillery in Oahu, (Hawaiians) had a five-day leave, spent at Fort DeRussy, "where we are almost civilians," with real beds, fine food and indoor showers. Even camera film has been available while the Waikiki beach is only a short distance away. But Harry says that Jersey's beaches are far superior--as he well knows after coral had scratched his feet and legs.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Andrew Hausenbauer, who worked as a baker in Princeton for quite a number of years, has purchased a bakery at Vineland...The tomato cannery operated by the Urban Food Company is going strong, opening somewhat later than last year...Russell W. Holcombe, Sr. has tendered his resignation as School Board Clerk...Mrs. Claude Emmons is moving to the former King property on East Prospect Street...Joseph Simonelli has moved from West Prospect to East Prospect Street, and the Vincent Savidges will occupy the first-mentioned residence...The Wm. Sangstons have bought a property on Ego Avenue....Andrew Frech, band and orchestra instructor at Princeton High School, who moved to Hopewell a year ago, has taken a position of a like nature in the Lower Merion (Pa.) High School and moved from here. But another Princeton High teacher, Carlyle Smith, who will teach in the industrial arts department, will occupy the house vacated by the Frechs....Scott Dansberry, Jr. is now working as an electrician's helper with Herbert Jones....Mrs. J. Howard Dilts, wife of the Borough Tax Collector, died last Saturday after being ill for some time.

"HOPEWELL NEWS" IN BOOK FORM?

An inquiry went out with the last issue of the "Hopewell News" concerning interest in the publication of news items of the past three years in book form, after re-editing and re-arrangement. The response to date has been gratifying but as yet, no definite decision has been made concerning the project. Much depends upon further return of postal cards, supplied in the hope that folks would indicate what they thought about the idea. Some further announcement may be made a little later.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

- Q. What's the difference between a black-haired man and a bald-headed one?
A. One is crocheted and the other knit.
(Do you get it--crow-shade and the other "nit.")

There isn't much to be seen in a little town, but what you hear makes up for it.

Subway Conversation:

"Ya' liko t' road?"

"Yah."

"Whatcha liko t' road?"

"Oh, Lil' Orphanannie, Popeyo 'n' Flash Gordn'."

"Ya' like O. Henry?"

"Naw, do nuts git in me teeth."

IN CLOSING

"Hope you've enjoyed this little visit--even though I've done all the talking. Will be glad to hear from you, and the readers of "Hopewell News"--in the service and out--say they thrive on the reports from those who are scattered all around the world. Meanwhile, best of luck.

DEAN H. ASHTON, Editor.

97W. Broad Street, Hopewell, N.J.

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

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45th Issue

SO THIS IS TOKYO!

Several Hopewell fellows have reached the major objectives of the War in the Pacific--Tokyo Bay and the soil of the Japanese homeland. Included are: Lieut. Fred D. Boice, Army photographer; Archibald Litzen, AMM1/c, and William H. Wyckoff, SME/c, of the Navy; and Cpl. Thomas McCandless and Pfc. Orville Carkhuff, Jr., of the Army Infantry and Field Artillery respectively. There probably are others.

Lieut Boice has been taking pictures of the Japanese surrender ceremonies, apparently moving rapidly from one point to another to record the history-making events. He previously had moved into Okinawa and Iwo Jima with a Combat Cargo Unit and had seen Tokyo from the air several times earlier in the year. He expects to be with the Army of Occupation in Japan until next Spring.

Arch Litzen, advanced a grade to AMM 1/c, was aboard the first American aircraft carrier to enter the waters of Tokyo Bay. His ship is the U.S.S. *Cornes*, nicknamed "The Mighty Moo," to which his Navy air unit was assigned last Spring. It was the second carrier on which Arch had served, he previously being with the U.S.S. *Bataan*. "Now that the war is over, I'm not doing any flying at all," Arch reports, "I'm just awaiting further developments." For him, it is not the final phase of his Navy career as he has a minimum of one year more to serve under his enlistment. He reveals that after making two strikes at Wake Island enroute West, the carrier joined the Third Fleet and proceeded north. Arch continues: "I was on 10 strikes against industrial targets, airfields, shipping and major Japanese warships, including the battleships Haruna and Negata, all in and around the Tokyo area." Fortunately, the ship never received a "near miss" or a hit although it was in Pacific service as early as 1943, after being commissioned at Philadelphia.

For Bill Wyckoff, however, Japanese waters meant a huge mine-sweeping job. His mine-sweeper, however, was an old hand at the business, having previously seen similar service in the Mediterranean, where Bill also was aboard for many months. When writing on Sept. 4th, he reported that "At present I am operating out of Okinawa, between the China coast and the mainland of Japan." He is aboard the U.S.S. *Prevail*. He writes further: "We just finished two mine-sweeping jobs, one in the China Sea along that coast, and the other along the southern coast of Japan. Both operations were done before the end of the war, so you can see we were sticking our necks out as usual. You probably know that the invasion of the homeland was set for Nov. 1. So that accounts for the big sweep jobs. The first was the biggest sweeping operation ever pulled, consisting of over 100 swoops, plus smaller craft to be used as mine destruction vessels. The first mine field was 150 miles long and 60 miles wide. The second, on the southern tip of the mainland, was as long but only 35 miles wide. We were subject to air assaults, but I've seen worse." He also disclosed that his ship figured in the invasion of Okinawa "and had quite a lot of stiff opposition from the Japs, both on the sea and in the air. As for the Army and Marines, they had their hands full on the island, too. We were under repeated air attacks, with the Navy having the Jap 'suicide' planes to combat. We had quite a good-sized scoreboard painted on the bridge of our ship, both Jap and German flags, for planes and mines. For a mine-sweeper, we really knocked them down." And as for points, with 44 needed in the Navy for discharge, Bill comes up with 38 $\frac{1}{2}$, but adds: "It's wonderful to know the entire world is at peace again, and all the bloodshed at an end."

Cpl. Thomas McCandless, who had been on Luzon, in the Philippines, sent word that they were moving "on to Tokyo". Pfc. Orville Carkhuff, who had been in Hopewell as recently as last June, had been at Oahu, in the Hawaiian Islands, before the orders came to travel to the "Land of the Rising--no, Setting Sun."

Sure enough, there are others from Hopewell in that area, too. A letter headed "Yokohama, Tokyo Bay" and dated Sept. 14th comes from Herbert E. Wilson, Rdm3/c giving a rather complete picture of things there. He states that his ship, the U.S.S. *Brock*, had reached Tokyo Bay on the previous day after a six-day run from Manila, escorting 22 APAs carrying around 35,000 Occupation troops. It was a rough passage, he says, as a typhoon was trying to catch up with them, and they finally went off their course to get out of it. (continued next page)

SO THIS IS TOKYO (continued)

Tokyo Bay seemed cold, Herb Wilson, commented. The temperature was 72, but he explained that this was 30 to 40 degrees less than what they had been experiencing for the three months previous. His description of Tokyo Bay follows.

"The first sight that greeted us as we sailed into the Bay was the Stars and Stripes waving from a lighthouse at the entrance. The bay itself was filled with American warships of all kinds, troop ships and merchantmen. The Japs, after being told that practically our entire Navy had been destroyed, must have been greatly surprised to see all these ships. We anchored off Yokohama and from here we can see the top of Mt. Fujiyama, when it is clear, but the base of the mountain is always hidden by the clouds. We are now waiting to go back to Manila.

"Yesterday I had a two-hour 'liberty' in Yokosuka, a suburb of Yokohama. Two hours was more than enough. The only modern improvements are cement roads and a few autos from the U.S. The streets have no definite pattern, but seem to run just any old direction. Most of the buildings are run-down ramshackle affairs. The principal industry is fishing and making fancy souvenirs. The odor is terrific! The people are dirty and seem like a very motley bunch. Their clothing consisted of everything from pieces of military clothing to just plain rags. Most people wore wooden clogs for shoes. The women are all very short and carry their babies on their backs like the Indians used to do. I don't believe I have ever seen a more dilapidated, stinking, depressing place in my life.

"Everyone seems to have plenty of money. Even the little children run around with fists full of it. A yen is worth about 7 cents in American money. We are not allowed to take any of our money ashore. We take cigarettos, candy, soap, etc. and trade them for Jap money or souvenirs. A pack of cigarettos brings 10 yen or about 70 cents, and soap about the same. I took four packs of cigarettos ashore and when I came back I had a fan, victrola record, history book, some postcards and about a dollar's worth of Jap money. The original cost of the cigarettos was 24 cents. At this rate, the Japs will go bankrupt before very long.

"On the way back to the ship, we passed close to a Jap battleship that had gotten the worst of it in an engagement with our forces. It was burnt, twisted and full of gaping holes. I hear they are going to try to bring it to the States."

Incidentally, Herb has a brand new baby daughter, now about two weeks old. But he has only 33 points toward his discharge, prompting him to say: "That means I'll be in for some time yet."

COUSINS HAVE STRANGE MEETING

A reunion under odd circumstances occurred when Sgt. Leonard W. Vandewater (Infantry) came home about three weeks ago. The first relative to greet him was Cpl. Erwin W. Benson, his cousin, who, as far as Leonard knew, was still in Europe. And where did the reunion occur? Right in front of the Hopewell Elementary School and at about 1.30 A. M.

Leonard's folks knew that he had reached New York, but the uncertainties of furlough arrangements for returnees made it impossible to plan to meet him at any set time. However, Erwin, who had been "through the ropes" a week or two earlier, had a hunch. So Erwin, returning late from Trenton, kept his eyes open for Leonard in the role of a hitch-hiker, knowing that the last bus had gone. But he didn't spy Leonard. Reaching Hopewell, he checked up carefully in the center of town and again in the vicinity of Woart's Market. Still not satisfied to abandon the search, Erwin decided to go a little distance out Princeton Avonue in the direction of Leonard's home at Mount Rose. Suddenly the headlights of his car picked up a GI sitting on the curb near the school. Erwin eased up and recognized Leonard! The latter, after their greeting, said he was just cussing his luck because there seemed to be no autoists on the move and little chance of a ride for the last leg of his journey home. So together they went the rest of the way, swapping stories of their experiences.

Erwin, incidentally, reported back to Fort Dix at the end of his furlough, but just at the time when 15-day extensions were being authorized, so he has had the advantage of a couple more weeks at home. He expects to go to Fort Bragg, N.C. to await further orders, as a member of the 13th Airborne Artillery Division.

RUSS HOLCOMBE, JR. GOES TO OREGON

Pvt. Russell ("Hokey") W. Holcombe, Jr. is now at Camp Adair, Oregon (near Portland.) He went there from Asheville, N.C. where he reported after his 73-day furlough. "Hokey" had returned from Europe in June after spending about 140 days in a German prison camp. He is now doing clerical work on personnel records of men being sent overseas or returning for discharge. He recently met Joe Petrozzini, another Princeton High student, who is playing in a dance orchestra out there, and formerly was on the High School football team. While at Asheville, N.C., "Hokey" could hardly believe he was still in the Army, as he lived in a hotel, with free recreation including a fishing trip, skeet-shooting, dances, movies, tours to industrial plants, and scenic spots, and best of all "The Army didn't care when we got up and when we went to bed."

GETTING BACK HOME

The happy home-comings are becoming quite numerous. About 15 fellows have arrived home lately, either with their discharge papers in their pockets or on furloughs that frequently are the preliminary to final release. The lists that follow are as complete as possible:

Returned and Discharged

Lieut. Kenneth R. Burroughs
Richard P. Embley, S1/c
Pfc. George S. Knudsen
Lieut. John P. Lamson
Lieut. Raymond C. Lowe
T/5 John P. McGuire
George J. Myers, Jr. CSK
Paul Sinclair
John W. Dilts

Returned on Furlough or Enroute

T/5 Ira B. Allen
Willis H. Green
Orville Holcombe
John B. (Burk) Kirby
John Walter Knorr
Lieut. F. Donald Selbie, Jr.
T/5 Edem L. Shook

"Ken" Burroughs came home from Midland, Texas, where he served as an instructor following his return from England and duty as a bombardier with the Eighth Air Force which included 34 missions. He got out of the Army the hard way, first being sent to an Army Air Field in North Carolina but finding, when he arrived, that the field had been closed down. He reported to a nearby camp and was sent back to Texas, after which his discharge soon came through. His recent bride (Marilyn) of Houston, Texas, came with him. He hopes to resume his college studies.

Richard "Pooch" Embley had been aboard the U.S.S. Durik, a destroyer escort, and his service record included several months in the Mediterranean. Knudsen had served with the Engineers, returning from Germany. Jack Lamson, Army Air Force officer, had been in Georgia and North Carolina. Raymond Lowe has been a test pilot for fighter aircraft at Harlingen, Texas, with well over 1,200 hours of flying. John McGuire, had been overseas with an Ordnance Company, while George Myers, last serving as a Chief S. Rekeeper on Guam, had served in the Atlantic (in time for the North Africa invasion) as well as the Pacific before having shore duty. Paul Sinclair had seen 10 months' service at the Army fighting front, as part of his four years in the Army. Ira Allen was with the 7th Army in Germany doing "M.P." duty but that didn't keep him from disappearing mysteriously as soon as he reached Fort Dix enroute home, thus getting into Hopewell for a few hours before reporting back the following morning. Willis Green, who has been in India, and Orville Holcombe, who has been in China with an Air Service Group and the Engineers' Service of Supply respectively, have been expected for some time. Burk Kirby, who fought with an AAA Battery in Italy, France and Germany, was in England more recently. Walter Knorr served in the Infantry, being twice hospitalized, the second time after being wounded in the leg while in France, with a subsequent transfer to Transportation. Lieut. Selbie was in India and more recently in the Mariana Islands with a Bomb Group. Edem Shook was with the Engineers in Germany, with earlier duty at a Prisoner-of-war camp in France. John Dilts was in the Army five years, most recently in Burma with a Fighter Squadron but earlier in California as well as on Pacific Islands.

CHANGES AT SCHOOL

With \$1,000 worth of new books, several new teachers, departmental work limited to the Seventh and Eighth Grades and other changes, the Elementary School is under way once again. The police ban delayed action until Sept. 24th. Earl B. Whitcraft, principal, is devoting almost his entire time to supervisory work, although teaching a double Science period for the Seventh and Eighth Grades. The new books were accepted eagerly by the pupils, but the new teachers, as far as the students are concerned, are still on trial! One anxious parent asked if it was going to be permissible to wear dungarees to classes, to which Mr. Whitcraft replied that it would be O.K. if they were clean and pressed. Other improvements have been made in the Library and the appearance of the hallways.

SOON TO START HOME

Cpl. Graham L. Benson with a Marine Corps Aircraft Wing, has sent word from Zamboanga, on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines, that further mail should be withheld. He's about to start home, he says, after nearly a year of duty at varied spots in the Pacific. He said they were all packed up, and only needed transportation. Previously, they had expected they were just going to a different location for further duty. Zamboanga, he said "isn't much of a place, as it was shot up plenty when we made the landing but they are getting it fairly well cleared up." With censorship lifted, he has been able to tell how his Marine outfit first went to Guadalcanal after "a slight scrap with the Japs but no damage done." Then he flew to Bougainville (Solomon Islands) and later to Leyte (Philippines); then back to Owi, off the northern coast of New Guinea, and again to Leyte and Mindanao.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Doctor," the patient groaned; "can you cure me of snoring? I snore so loud that I wake myself up."

"In that case," the physician advised, "I'd sleep in another room."

The wholesale jewelry-manufacturing business conducted by Adolph Sickinger on Model Avenue for a number of years has been sold to an out-of-town company--but Mr. Sickinger will still be on the job. He has been retained as foreman and reports are that quite a number of jobs will be available before long. The western end of the property occupied--the former Elementary School annex--is being enlarged, with a large tree removed, the embankment out away, etc.

WHAT ABOUT THE "NEWS"--AND THE BOOK?

Two questions are being fired at the Editor of the "Hopewell News" quite frequently these days. They are: "Are you going to keep the "News" going?" and "Have you decided whether you will bring out a book with some of the material contained in it?" Here are the answers.

The day is fast approaching when the "Hopewell News" will have served the purpose for which it was designed--that is, to keep service men and women informed about their home town and the activities of others in the armed forces. Much depends upon the rapidity of demobilization. However, the present plan is to publish five more editions after this one--the last to appear about January 15, 1946.

Concerning the proposed book, the word on that is--yes, it will be published! The response to the recent circular outlining the idea and asking advice has been far greater than anticipated. The work on it has been started but a definite publication date cannot be given as yet. The editing task is a sizeable undertaking and after that, much depends upon the cooperation of the publishing house. The edition will be limited in size and only persons who place orders in advance--send no money now--can be assured that copies will be available. The exact price also is undetermined, hinging chiefly upon the number of pages that the material requires. In due course, some further word will be given.

POLIO BAN LIFTED

It looked as if every boy and girl under 16 attended the Friday night show at the Colonial Playhouse immediately following the lifting of the polio ban. They really packed 'em in that night. The ban--to lessen the likelihood of infantile paralysis spreading--had been in effect for four weeks. However, it was relaxed to some extent during the final week--partly because the boys were beginning to look like Rip Van Winkle after he had slept for 20 years without a hair-cut, and also so parents could take children into the stores to shop in preparation for school.

So the barber shops were permitted to admit one boy at a time. Then other stores were allowed to admit children under 16, again one at a time. During the ban, the children had complained loud and long that "the ban's unfair" because some of the polio cases in Trenton were adults, but the ban was applied only to persons under 16.

The decision to throw off the ban came late in the week, but the Calvary Baptist Church School staff had anticipated it and set things in motion so a session could be held on Sunday, Sept. 23rd. It was the first since July 28th, as Bible Schools closed down as a precautionary measure before the actual ban on children at public gatherings went into effect. Other churches resumed Bible School sessions this past Sunday.

HAROLD VAN LIEW CROSSES PACIFIC

Aboard the new aircraft carrier, "U.S.S. Boxer," Harold VanLiew, AOM2/o, wrote on Sept. 6th that they were approaching Pearl Harbor, with everyone still in doubt as to whether they would be doing patrol duty or serving as a troop transport. If it should be the latter, he, as a member of the "air department," might get a different assignment aboard another ship. Going through the Panama Canal was quite an experience, he says. They were credited with being the first naval vessel that ever hit there at the set time and date scheduled. At Colon, they had liberty, and found that one of their fellows who knew Spanish could be put to good use in talking with the people there. After going through the locks, they were at Panama City and then headed for San Francisco. The trip through the Canal took 8 to 9 hours, and their carrier scraped the sides at times.

SPONSORS

It's always a pleasure to say a good word about folks who have helped to underwrite the cost of getting out the "Hopewell News." Surely, those on the receiving want to know, too. Recent contributors include: Mrs. Elsie M. Myers, Mrs. Margaret P. McGuire, Misses Mildred and Carolyn Rathousky, Mrs. William Bregonzor, Mr. and Mrs. I. Clifford Higgins, and Mrs. J. Grant Voorhees.

BONERS

For the sake of the record, certain corrections are in order, in respect to the Sept. 11th issue. Jack Gintor, A/S, went to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Illinois, not to Bainbridge, Md. It's Ed Savidgo, not Vinco, who will move to West Prospect Street, and Mrs. Claude ~~Smith~~ has moved to Bordentown to help in her father-in-law's insurance business, changing her plan to move to East Front Street. Also, Andrew Froeh, Princeton High School music instructor, who has lived in Hopewell several months, has delayed moving to Ponna. for a couple of months.

SGT. FLAGG TELLS OF IWO JIMA

Since the end of the war, life on Iwo Jima is greatly changed, according to Sgt. John W. Flagg, of the 47th Fighter Squadron. Plans had been made to fly over and land in Japan, he declares, but the Jap surrender disposed of that. Now "the planes fly in the morning, and then we play ball and go swimming every afternoon." He says he is hoping to get a ride on a C-46 to Tokyo as planes are carrying supplies there constantly. He hopes to get home by the end of the year, but if so, it is to be done on 74 points, so perhaps it will be February, 1946. On Iwo, he states, a chemical garden has raised 120 tons of tomatoes on two acres of ground. The island itself has no top soil, being black sand on the south end and sulphur rock at the other end. Jack adds that the P-51 Mustangs from their Group were the first land-based fighter planes to fly over Japan. They also escorted B-29s over Japan and show down about 50 Jap planes, although they soon took to remaining on the ground, rather than risk combat. The plane on which Jack worked had three Jap flags, denoting planes downed, painted on its side.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Pfc. James H. Hall (Armored Infantry) home on furlough from Germany, has been spending part of his time as a taxicab driver in the employ of Carballal's Taxi Service.....Pfc. Robert A. VanDoren is in a rear echelon on Guam with a Signal Construction Battalion.....W. Robert Davis, C/M with the U.S.M.M., is at Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Mississippi. Cpl. Edgar A. Dormer (Ordnance) is at Camp Hood, Texas, after being in Belgium, France and Germany.

George F. Rightmire, RM3/c, continues his extensive travels. After a 28-day leave, he reported to Brooklyn, then went to Shoemaker, California, then to San Pedro and then aboard the U.S.S. Doyon. Previously he had boom through the Panama Canal twice, around Cape Horn (S. America) to South Africa, to Mozambique, East Africa, along with three trips to England. "That's one thing about the Navy," he writes, "they give you an opportunity to see much of the country at home as well as lots of water all over the world. It's surprising how you can enjoy the nation's beauties travelling in hard-seat day coaches, two men per seat, for days, and sleeping in tiers (tears) at night if you want to stretch out at all. It's especially pleasant travelling across the desert in a blazing Summer boat; first, the drinking water runs dry and then the washing water is used up. At the first stop of the train, a 'strip-tease' takes place and the troops are taking showers under the train's filling hose."

A promotion makes it Sgt. B. Carl Hillman, Jr. He is with a S.A.W. Battalion near Honolulu. His brother, Richard, with six months service in the Navy, came in at Pearl Harbor and spent Labor Day with Carl. It was the first they had seen each other since January, 1944, when Carl was last home on furlough.....Robert L. Hill, RM3/c, was at Leyte (Philippines) on Sept. 12th, his ship being assigned to a transport squadron under the command of the Seventh Fleet since they went out from California in the middle of August. Going out, they took Seaboss and Naval replacements to Pearl Harbor, then took on Army troops, Marines and a few civilians--about 2,200 altogether--and headed for Eniwetok (Marshall Islands) and on to Guam, where most of the passengers disembarked. After Leyte, their course was not certain. Bob said he soon will have enough points to the eligible for the return home.

Wm. Theodore Sinclair, aboard an APD doing Pacific duty, writes that he still has no idea when he may get home. Cpl. Paul A. Ashton (Army Air Force) who is at Amarillo, Texas, finds that the Airplane Engine Mechanics School in which he was to receive training, is preparing to close, so he expects to be undergoing another change in location.....A promotion for Harry J. Erickson now gives him a ranking as a T/6, up from Pfc. He is now in a Field Artillery Battalion; previously with an Armored Division's Artillery.

Pfc. John Garrett Conover has moved to LeHavre, France, from Brussels, Belgium, and has a job as financial clerk. He says it is "better than anything else I could get in the Army. They work in the Fort overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. He adds that "the outs are wonderful" but he also told his wife that "some of your good fudge candy would go good." Their food is cooked by German "P.W.'s", but he heard some GI's say "What a lousy breakfast after they had been served fried eggs, sausages, cereal, hot rolls with plenty of butter, coffee and an orange." He also mentioned that he had his hair cut by a woman barber, "though it felt a little funny, she did the best job since I left home." And as for working hours, it's 8 to 5, with an hour for lunch, and 9 to 4:30 on Sundays, with one day off a week--and no guard duty nor K.P. When his orders for transfers from Brussels came through, he was awakened at midnight, and their group started on its way by 12:45 A. M. They woke up in Paris at 7 A.M. and had a day to "do the town," ontraining that night for LeHavre and getting their sloop on their bags in the baggage car. They were at LeHavre by 6:30 A.M. and soon at the Fort, which is 297 steps up from the town level.

Pfc. Nicholas Guiseppe who served in Germany with a Medical Regiment and has been at Camp Shelby, Miss. since his return, has been awarded a Purple Heart decoration...Pvt. George Brain, at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, has been on bivouac for two weeks and hoped to get his first furlough.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Coxswain John F. Corcoran, of the Navy ABPD, is reported as being on Okinawa.....Joseph V. Bealkowski has earned the title of Flight Officer in the AAF, having graduated from the B-29 Flight Engineer school at Hondo, Texas and receiving his Flight Engineer wings.....The destroyer on which his brother, Bruno Bealkowski, F2/c is serving, is credited with sinking two Jap vessels and damaging a third in the Sea of Okhotsk, after taking part in eight other sea strikes from the Aleutians (off Alaska) to the Central Kurileans.....Robert E. Lowe, S2/c is aboard the 45,000-ton Midway, described as "the world's mightiest flattop" carrier, which recently was commissioned at Norfolk, Va.

A promotion for Joseph A. McAlinden makes him a Motor Mechanist Mate, 2/c. He is at a Submarine Net Depot in the Panama Canal Zone. His brother, Sgt. Merritt J. McAlinden, Jr. expected to be redeployed to the Pacific Area, having returned from Germany with the 134th Ordnance Company....For Katherine Ackerman, the Cpl. stripes has been changed to Sergeant's, where she is attached to the Flexible Gunnery School.....Birthday greetings to Joseph Bregonzer, Oct. 19; Joseph A. McAlinden, Oct. 29, and to Joseph Muredda, Oct. 17th.

AROUND TOWN

Two men of prominence died recently, Joseph B. Hill, 83, and Leroy T. Blackwell. Mr. Hill, who established the coal and lumber business bearing his name, had been ill for some time. In past years, he had been active as bank president and a director, as well as in Masonic Lodge, Fire Company and athletic affairs. Mr. Blackwell had been president of the Board of Education and a member of Borough Council. He was 61 years of age. He was in failing health but had returned to his job with the Reading Railroad shortly before he was again stricken. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

The town has two taxi services again, as Van Gabsbach has opened a stand in front of Gebhart's Hotel....Mrs. Shirley Solbie Boice, who recently returned from Wyoming where she spent the summer, is teaching in Hamilton Township, having a special class of 18.....Box rentals at the Post Office have been increased, to ever, daily service, a box costing 45 cents per quarter heretofore, being raised to 60 cents. To folks who've asked "How come?" Postmaster McAlinden has had to explain that it's due to a government regulation setting the rates higher as business increases.

Miss Sadie Ellen Dansberry, who is employed in Philadelphia, now can be heard Sunday mornings in the choir of the 39th Street Presbyterian Church in that city....Garrett B. Conover, Sr., who is a Deacon Emeritus of Calvary Baptist Church, was 87 last week and was immensely pleased when a cablegram arrived from his grandson, Pic. John Garrett Conover, from LeHavre, France....August Rehberg, who had been living adjacent to the Conovers, has moved to Florida....The musical Pfeiffers, who assisted with programs at the Elementary School on past occasions, have moved to Princeton where he now heads the voice department of the Westminster Choir College....Hopewell's streets were tarred and stoned recently, ten truckloads of fine stone being brought from Tronton when the working crew arrived....At the Fall flower show sponsored by the Senior Roundabout Club and held in Calvary Baptist Church, Mrs. Raymond VanDyke won first prize for the most points, with Mrs. B. Carl Hillman, second, and Mrs. John Burd, third.

Sponsor Moore has a new meat display refrigerator that makes you hungry to look in it.....Ed Schanok bought Edling's variety store all right, but Mr. Edling is still on hand, helping to wait on customers....Russell Loring, who was stricken while on a vacation trip, is able to be in his store again....At Hoart's Market, Miss Marion Vandewater has resigned to be married to Jonathan Voorhees, who has a farm at VanLieu's corner near Ringoes. Mrs. Elitha Blackwell is taking over the store position, after being employed in the Borough Board office....Mrs. Albert VanZandt is now playing the organ at Calvary Baptist Church....Janet Dansberry is working as a stenographer with the State Unemployment Compensation Commission....Heryl L. Agin and Mildred F. Jones have clerical positions in the County Clerk's Office at Court House in Tronton....Mrs. Margaret Lawson, former acting principal at the Elementary School, is now living in Springfield, Mass., where her husband, a Pacific war zone veteran, is attending the American International College....Andy Wyckoff is working at Hoart's Market, driving a truck.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

His secretary was just comfortably seated upon his lap when the boss looked up and saw his wife entering the office.

"Milo High Furniture Company," he dictated rapidly. "Gentlemen-- Rationing or not rationing, how long do you think I can run my office with only one chair?"

IN CLOSING

There you have it, another edition of "Hopewell News", just loaded down with items. Hope you'll enjoy reading it. Best of luck to you!

Hopewell News

--- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher ---

VOL. III, No. 15

Hopewell, N.J., October 23, 1945

46th Issue

HERE THEY COME!

The fellows who served in the Armed Forces are really pouring back home now. For a while, it was one now and then; more recently, several would arrive and then there would be a lull. But now--well, the old town really knows that the war is over.

That may not seem like "good reading" to those who still remain on duty in spots far away from home, nor for those who went out across the Pacific where the pace is agonizingly slow as yet, but the big news is that the ships are ruming, the number being carried is high, and that means that everybody's turn will come that much sooner.

Since the last issue of the "Hopewell News" of three weeks ago, more than a dozen fellows have returned, and most of them have received their honorable discharge, while more than a dozen others are enroute or expected to start shortly. In fact, they've written "Stop the mail" or letters are being returned. In one or two instances, fellows who thought they'd pull a surprise by walking in some day will be discovering that Uncle Sam isn't much for secrets, for letters sent to such individuals are returned to the sender marked "Returning." But let's see who has been getting home or is now expected.

Returned and Discharged

Cpl. Erwin W. Benson (Airborne Artillery) is back in civilian attire, getting his discharge at Fort Dix a few days ago after an extended furlough following his return from Germany. And when he went into a clothing store to buy a suit, darned if the salesman didn't say: "How about a nice brown suit?" Erwin says he felt like twisting the suit right around the salesman's neck. Incidentally, Erwin's earlier notion that he might want to stay in service in the hope of getting a look at Japan was abandoned. Maybe it was home-cooking, or a girl friend in Trenton, that changed his mind. Who knows? Anyway, he had completed five years' service in September and that's about enough in any man's Army.

T/5 Ira B. Allon was discharged soon after his return from Germany where he was an "M.P." with the Seventh Army....Pfc. John Walter Knorr, who was wounded while in France with the Infantry, hospitalized in England and later assigned to Transportation in France, came home Oct. 14th and was promptly released....Lt. Col. Eugene H. Turner, son-in-law of Al Giess, has been discharged after going to California following his furlough. The Turners have returned to their home in Princeton to live. He was overseas with an Armored Division....Donald Gray is home and discharged, after being with a car-reconditioning squadron of a Service Troop, and later with an Armored outfit.

Capt. F. Donald Solbie, Jr., whose discharge comes at the end of his furlough, came from Timian to the Pacific Coast by plane in 46 hours, then required a week to get across the U.S. He was Radar Counter-Measure Officer for the 40th Bomb Group, an outfit that first took B-29s over Japan. He saw service in India, China and the Mariana Islands, and had 21 missions to his credit.

Sgt. William Henric (Chemical Battalion) came home Sept. 28th from Ober Amblach, Germany, and has been discharged. His wife, Ruth Lawyer Henric, who is a Ph.M.3/o in the Waves, expects to be released soon, too. He was transferred to a Cannon Company of an Infantry Regiment and was in combat action. Previously, he had been across the whole of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. While he was situated in the famed Tyrolean Alps for a while, he says that the snow-capped peaks and the marvellous waterfalls can't compare with the sight of Hopewell and his friends.

Pfc. Clarence M. Younger, who served in the Army Air Force, is a civilian once again.T/5 John P. McGuire received his discharge Sept. 22, after coming back from Germany. He is a brother-in-law of Stephen Myers who was killed Febr. 15th in Luxembourg. McGuire had been in service since June, 1942, going over in February, 1944, and entering Normandy soon after the invasion, and seeing action with an Ordnance Company through Northern France and Germany.

John ("Jack") W. Wysocki, Jr., Sl/o, has just returned from the Navy Air Station at Fallon, Nevada, after pronouncing a few days ago that he would soon be back and possessing his honorable discharge. He went into the Navy a year ago last August.

HERE THEY COME! (continued)Returned on Furlough or Expected

Sgt. Colin A. McBurney arrived in town on Oct. 14th, after seeing plenty of action as a member of a bomber crew with numerous missions over Japan. He was in the Mariana Islands and has the coveted Air Medal.....Orville Holcombe has completed the long journey back home from China where he served with an Air Service Group and later in the Engineers' Service of Supply.....T/5 Eden L. Snook has a 15-day extension of furlough with hope that he will be discharged.....S/Sgt. Chester Robbins, husband of Rena Wolfe Robbins, has been at Camp Upton, L.I. since returning from overseas.....Cpl. William Penelli (Air Service Squadron) sailed home on the Queen Mary and arrived in the States on Oct. 16. He formerly lived in Princeton...Pvt. Earl C. Bartlett, who was across with a Quartermaster Service Company, returned and has been at Camp Lee, Va. Home again for the week-end, he said that men are being discharged rapidly at that point.

And among those being expected most any time now are: T/5 Thomas Faherty (Field Artillery) who has been doing military government work with the Ninth Army at Thal Gormany; T/Sgt. Wilbur Low (Ordnance), due any day from Gormany after serving earlier in Belgium; S/Sgt. Harold Tobiason (promoted to that rank) who was with an AAA Gun Battalion; Sgt. Edward Solan, with three years' service in Italy; Cpl. Paige Hoagland, who was with an Eng. Avn. Bn. with a San Francisco APO number; Pvt. Clarence Cooper, who has been with an M.P. Company in Europe; and Pfc. Anton Holstrom, of an S.A.W. Bn., who had been packed up since August in Germany.

Yes, the Pacific area is going to provide some returnees, too! Commander Herbert B. Butcher, who was in London during the "blitzing" days but has been on Samar Island in the Philippines more recently, has received orders to return to the U.S.; Arch Litzon, AMM1/c, who went into Tokyo Bay aboard the first aircraft carrier, the USS Cowpens, who expects to be arriving about November 1, much to his surprise as he thought he had a year to go as a Reservist, but instead he will be released from his duties as a first-class petty officer; S/Sgt. Charles "Reg" Hurloy, who has been through some of the island campaigns with the Coast Artillery Battery of 178th Headquarters, and has seen long service in the Pacific; Sgt. Willis Green, who phoned from California that he had finally arrived after being enroute from India since July; T/5 George A. Housel, who has been on duty in the Pacific zone with an AAA Battalion; Vernon I. Temple, MM3/c, who has crossed the Pacific innumerable times on a supply ship; and Herbert E. Wilson, RDM 3/c, who was in Tokyo Bay but who on Oct. 8th wrote from Leyte in the Philippines, that he is eligible for discharge, all packed and ready to go as soon as transportation is available. He added that there seemed to be thousands who also are all set. He added that the trip back from Japan down to the Philippines was "the longest and roughest we ever experienced. We were continually leaving our course to keep away from the typhoons which are so prevalent in this area during this season of the year."

CARRIES A MILLION

It doesn't happen every day, but Pfc. John Garrett Conover had a million dollars in his clutches the other day--but it got away from him. He is now with a Finance Disbursing Section in France, moving recently from LeHavre to Etriat. His duties consist of exchanging French money for English and vice versa, for the benefit of GIs going to or from England. He says he has "banker's hours," 9 to 4, with "P. W.'s" to do the ordinary tasks. About that cool \$1,000,000--it seems that a Warrant Officer, Garrett and another chap were going to the Banque de France to deposit the money. It consisted of 1,000-franco notes, equivalent to a \$20 bill in U.S. money. One bundle contained 500,000 of those notes. "The warrant officer asked me if I'd like to see how it feels to hold that much money," Garrett wrote. He said it set him to dreaming for a minute or two, but he concluded it would be better to work for it. Still, he described it as "quite an experience."

EPIDEMIC OF PEA-SHOOTERS

Any kid who didn't have a pea-shooter and a pocketful of pea-beans just did not "belong" during the past two or three weeks. The fad developed when local stores stocked up with cheap plastic pea-shooters. The groceries probably never sold so many pea-beans in a short time. Sidewalks around the Post Office, Cutler's drug-store, etc. were littered. Passing autoists (at night) wondered what was hitting their windows and no one was immune from attack.

Then it developed that a number of electric light bulbs around town were being damaged. While pea-shooters were under suspicion, the trouble was traced to a person using an air-rifle from a car. However, the pea-shooters began to vanish when it looked as if trouble was brewing. The question now is--what fad comes next?

BREGENZER HEARD FROM

There was a long interval with no word from Pfc. Charles Brogenzer (Engineers) extending since last July. He had been through the North Africa and Italy campaigns. Word has come, however, that he sailed from Italy on July 17th and landed Sept. 3rd at Luzon, in the Philippines. They stopped at Gibraltar, across two oceans for a "hard and tough trip"...His brother, Thomas Brogenzer, landed at Tokyo Sept. 1 and says it's not time to brag about and he hopes he is moved soon.

FAMILIAR LANDMARK MISSING

(3)

Riding toward town, many persons have noticed that a familiar landmark has been missing. It is the cross atop the steeple of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church. The entire steeple, as a matter of fact, has been undergoing improvements and the cross is soon expected to be back in position. Meanwhile, the entrance and windows of the church also have been re-painted.

PUPILS BECOME TOMATO PICKERS

An emergency call for tomato pickers came to the Hopewell Elementary School a few days before the visit by Jack Frost that finished off the crop. Help was needed to harvest the crop on the Joe Svetan farm near Ringoes. School Principal Whitcraft gave permission for pupils to work a half-day if they made up their class work and about a dozen volunteered. They were paid 10 cents a basket, but when some grew a little weary and began to throw tomatoes at other pickers, a fine of 10 cents was imposed for everyone caught in the act. That wasn't adequate in one case, and one boy had his face washed with a tomato as a further penalty.

INSPECTS DEEP GOLD MINE

S/Sgt. Alan F. Hart, who is now stationed at Bangalore in Southern India after being with an Advance Depot Group, recently inspected the second deepest gold mine in the world. During the trip, he went down 7,810 feet--about a mile and a half vertically and says it was a thrilling experience. The trip through the Mysore Gold mine in the Kolar gold fields included inspection of the plant where the ore is processed from huge rocks until it is in the form of refined bullion.

Sgt. Hart said the mine "is a strange and awesome world all in itself, being a marvel of engineering and a monument to man's nerve and ingenuity." The Mysore mine has eleven surface shafts, all connected at various depths underground. In case of fire, eucalyptus oil is poured into the air ducts at the top of each shaft and the smell travels quickly, warning miners to make their way to the surface.

On the inspection trip, Hart first went down a shaft 3,708 feet vertically in a cage that travels about 45 miles an hour. The shaft is brick-lined and at that level they were already 741 feet below sea level. There they entered an incline shaft, whose roof is held up by granite walls. This shaft had four tracks in it. Passing through a ventilation doorway, they went down another 2,500 feet where they were surprised to find the air quite warm. This was a dead-straight level for three-quarters of a mile, where another vertical shaft took them down to the 7,819-foot level--actually 4,816 feet below sea level! There they saw a wing going down to the level below, equipped with a ladder road, a two-foot air pipe and a compressed air pipe and a "road" for a bucket. The party collected pieces of quartz for souvenirs. On the way back, they stopped at the 4,000-foot level to see the engines and safety devices but Hart said that the surface was "the best level of all."

In the same letter, he discussed the possibility of returning home but added that "right now there are too many uncertainties to discuss the matter seriously." He recently was married to a Massachusetts girl who has been doing Red Cross work in India.

BREAD SHORTAGE

For several days, bakery truckers were not to be seen around Hopewell due to a strike of drivers. However, Louie Gorhard's bakery switched to bread baking almost exclusively and Hopewell residents fared much better than folks in Tronton and some nearby towns. In Tronton, bread was rationed, one loaf to a customer for a few days but the strike was settled suddenly, being attributed chiefly to a Northern Jersey situation.

Not only did Hopewell have sufficient bread, but Louie also bought up 1,000 breakfast rings--yes, 1,000 of them--from a bakery truck driver who wanted to unload them in a hurry on the day that the strike was called, as he had to get his truck off the street by 3 P.M. The breakfast rings sold well.

STILL GOING IN

The war may be over, but they're still taking 'em in for military service. On Oct. 8th, Joseph B. Hill, son of the Hervoy Hills, left for Bainbridge, Md. He had enlisted recently and had been awaiting call since his birthday on August 18th.

CIVILIAN LIFE

What are the fellows doing who have been discharged recently? Well, here's a little cross-section that throws some light. Kenneth R. Burroughs has gone down to New Orleans to attend Tulane University, thus taking advantage of the educational opportunities provided by the "GI Bill of Rights." J. Burke Kirby plans to enter the Univ. of Penna. as a continuation of studies he took at Shrivensham, England, before his recent return to the States and discharge. Joseph Castoro is back on the job in the Castoro, Inc. trucking business, meanwhile hoping he will soon see his wife, who he met and married in Italy. She has obtained her visa but is awaiting transportation opportunities. John W. Dilts is working in Schomp's Garage at Flemington and gone to housekeeping in that town with his wife, the former Mary Ellen Buchanan, of Rocky Hill. George Knudsen, engaged to Marion Paul, is working in a Reading Railroad signal tower. Raymond C. Lowe is living in Hopewell but working in Flemington.

FURTHER REPORTS FROM JAPAN AND CHINA

(4)

Cpl. Thomas E. McCandless (Infantry) is now in Japan, going ashore on the island of Honshu in typical beachhead invasion form at Wakayama, below the city of Osaka. He is with the 136th Infantry and they moved in on Sept. 25. They waded ashore after using landing craft in a rough sea. After drying out, eating rations and hiking four miles, they entrained for Shinden, about 10 miles south of Kyoto. He found barracks awaiting them near an airplane factory, with the two-story buildings in fine shape. At Wakayama, however, bombings had ruined the factories. On his first inspection of Shinden at night, he said he found the streets deserted, the city quiet except for radios and the hum of voices indoors. He added that the narrow streets surprised him, being "just wide enough for one car except for the main street. However, bicycles are used considerably. The houses are "built right on the edge of the street--no sidewalks nor curbs."

Pfc. Robert A. VanDoren (Signal Const. Battalion) is now at Tientsin, China, not far from the famed Great Wall. He says they used small boats to go up the shallow river Hai. That area is under Russian control and he has visited their barracks and found them cooperative. But when Bob got a hair-cut in Tientsin, the barber was not so cooperative--at least the hair-cut cost him \$300 in Chinese money but about 15 cents in American cash. He has been eating K and C rations most of the time.

Cpl. Wilbur U. Hurley, at Mengtaz, China, with an Air Corps Fighter Squadron, was present when the Jap surrender in that province took place on Sept. 3rd. He took several pictures of the Jap envoys who arrived there in a "Sally" type of bomber, painted white with a green cross, to designate it as a ship of truce. He says he talked with some in the group, as they spoke fair English, but "it gave me a queer feeling, after knowing we had been fighting them and that the Japs had killed some of my buddies."

CHURCH MARKS ANNIVERSARY

Two services on Oct. 21st marked the 74th anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church. At the evening Harvest Festival, the Grango attended as special guests, and saw the display of Autumn leaves, applos, squash and pumpkin arranged on the platform for the occasion. The pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, preached on "Steady Ploughmen," and Scott Dansberry, Jr. sang "The Blind Ploughman." At the morning service, a large congregation heard another outstanding sermon on "Pausing At a Semicolon," with a special selection by the choir....Two Sundays earlier, the Eastern Star had been special guests at the morning service.....Some extensive church improvements are being arranged, to include a new heating system, new lighting and a new basement ceiling.....A chicken supper, a Fall event, is planned for Saturday, Nov. 17th, with Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Jr. as chairlady....Six of the Young People attended the State Youth Conference at Asbury Park, being Lois Wyckoff, Adole Laning, Margaret Hullfish, Donald Allen, Elaine Fetter and Eleanor Paul.

DEATHS

Deaths in the community have created an unusual amount of sadness in the past two or three weeks. Mrs. Leon Hill dropped dead in her home yesterday afternoon. She had been ailing for several months with high blood pressure, but had attended church with the Grange on the previous evening. She was the mother of Mrs. Elsie VanLiew and Robert I. Hill, MM3/c, with the Pacific Fleet.....The sudden passing of Miss Sarah Haynes, sister of Edward M. Haynes, of the Skillman State Village, was another shock to friends. She died in her sleep last Friday night, after being ill for some time. As a faithful Bible School teacher and organist of Calvary Baptist Church, she was highly regarded and influenced the lives of a number of the town's younger men....The death of Mrs. J. F. O'Neill, wife of Dr. O'Neill, earlier had cast a pall of sorrow over the town. She was stricken suddenly, rushed to the hospital, but died leaving a baby son, their third child.....Robert Diehl, 15-year-old son of the Edward Diehls, also has passed on, his death being attributed to polio. The development of that ailment when it was believed that the danger from it had passed, added to the shock.....J. William Davis, 63, who had worked in the Hopewell Herald office for years, died Oct. 14th, after several weeks' illness.

BIG PUMPKINS

A pumpkin weighing 48 pounds was included in a display in Gutter's drugstore window. The whopper was grown on the Marvin Conover farm, but the exhibit included a couple more that were nearly as large.

SCHOOL BUS MISHAPS

Walt Loigh sustained injuries when he collided with a school bus while he was walking on Columbia Avenue....On another day, the front windshield of one of the buses was cracked when a Freshman, forced to stand, was thrown against it when the bus stopped suddenly.....Speaking of accidents, two cars collided head-on at Mount Rose after midnight recently and State Police had their hands full, as the occupants of both cars were reported intoxicated....Recently, a car driven by a doctor who fell asleep at the wheel ran off the highway near the Pennington cut-off bridge. The car came to a halt in thick underbrush. The doctor--from out-of-town--woke up!

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Speaking of famous bathing springs," said the tramp to the tourist, "how well I remember the bath I took in the Spring of '27."

(5)
 WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Richard P. ("Pooch") Embley, S1/c, has not been discharged as previously indicated. Folks who saw him in "civvies" while he was home on a 14-day leave were under the impression that he had left the destroyer, U.S.S. Durik, but he is again aboard ship....Lieut. Florence M. DeHart, of the Army Nurses' Corps, who believed in March that she was going to the Burma-India area, went to Europe; then recently expected she was returning to the States, but was given new orders, and now is at an Evacuation Hospital in Germany. She reports that the building occupied is the only one left standing within a wide area, and lacking windows, is terribly cold for a person clad in a nurses' uniform....Pfc. James S. Brizell, (Engineers) is said to have been aboard ship, ready to start home from Europe, when it was decided that ten fellows must remain for essential duties, and Brizell was one of the ten that had to go ashore.

Sgt. Bruce H. Cray, who was with the 65th General Hospital, is now with the 163rd General Hospital, also in England. In fact, he is now about 18 miles from London. He started his fifth year in the Army on Sept. 25th....Pvt. John P. Lutz, who served in Germany with an Armored Division, was sent to California after his recent furlough, only to be granted another furlough. So back he came to Hopewell--even if the trip this time was at his own expense.....Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew, who has been in the Army over five years, expects to be discharged next month. He is with the 240th A.G.F. Band at Fort Jackson, South Carolina....For Bruce Vansant, it's now Corporal instead of Pfc. He is with an Engineers Construction Battalion and has been in the Philippines at Manila.

Sgt. John Lako (Ordnance) is home on a second furlough. It came after he reported to Camp Shelby, Miss., following his return from Holland, Belgium and Germany late in July. A brother, Cpl. William Lako (Field Artillery) is expected home soon, having been overseas for two years and most recently in Germany. A third brother, Pvt. Bloomfield Lako, is in England with the Quartermaster Corps, and has been overseas almost two years. A fourth brother, Cpl. Herbert Lako, was killed in action on April 6th in Germany.

Sgt. John ("Jack") W. Flagg wrote on Oct. 9 from Iwo Jima, stating that "the weather has been awful, one storm after the other, for the past week, and it has held us up from shipping the fellows home. He doubts whether he will see Japan, although indications were that his outfit might soon be making a move. He has forwarded a photo showing a plane on which he worked, and it is decorated with three Jap flags, for planes shot down; one decoration for a Jap plane shot on the ground, as well as marks for 13 long-range missions and 10 short-range missions. Later, the plane earned "a lot more," Jack adds.

Jack V. Sporling, Musician 3/c, is again at the U.S. Navy School of Music, in Washington, D.C., where he previously served as an instructor. He is a snare drummer. In recent months, he has been at Norman, Oklahoma. Jack signed up originally for a six-year enlistment and is now starting his fourth year of it.....Pvt. Robert Adam was awaiting transfer orders while at the Marine Corps base at Parris Island, S. C. He thought he would remain in the East....Pvt. James Brogenzor, who was in Newburgland with an APO number out of Presquo Islo, Maine, now has a New York APO....Edwin F. ("Fuzzy") Lowe, has been home for two weeks after another trip while serving in the Merchant Marine. He planned to remain so he could see his brother, T/Sgt. Wilbur Lowe, expected home from Germany where he served in an Ordnance Company.

Capt. John H. Winant, with a Quartermaster Team, expected to move from the Philippines into Japan. He is the husband of the former Miss Margaret Barnes, of Skillman....Pfc. Orville A. Wykoff, home some time ago from Europe, is up from Texas with a 15-day furlough....John G. Webster, A/S, who was on the Hospital staff at the Brooklyn Naval Hospital, is now attending the Long Island College of Medicine, while still living in Brooklyn.

Pfc. William E. Johnson is now at Shrivaham, England, taking Army University courses and specializing in journalism. He had been working in the Adjutant General's office, Hq., at Paris previously.

Pfc. Angolo C. Castoro is now in Assam, India. He was serving in Calcutta and Ceylon, being in India for two years, after earlier service in North Africa. His brother, Sgt. Nicholas Castoro, has been at the Newark Airport for about a year as a weather observer, previously being in Labrador for 14 months where his outfit erected its own observatory.

Kathleen Carkhuff is now a Cadet Nurse in training at the Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to

- William J. Ashton--Oct. 30
- Graham L. Benson--Nov. 10
- William H. Boozer--Nov. 13
- John F. Corcoran--Nov. 16
- Archibald R. Day--Nov. 3
- Paige Hoagland, Jr.--Nov. 7
- George Kenneth Hulfish--Nov. 17
- Elmer Lutz--Nov. 15
- Bertha A. Sheppard--Oct. 31
- Charles T. Wykoff--Nov. 6

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe, Jr. has come East from Camp Adair, Oregon, and after a week at home, reports to Virginia. He expects to continue duties in connection with the processing of records for men being discharged. He came by car with other GIs, making it in five days and stopping to sleep only one night. He has now been in 28 States and five countries, and although he was held as a prisoner in Germany, he says that "Germany is about the prettiest of them all." Glenn Agin, A/S, is in California, arriving there on the U.S. Maritime vessel which began its training trip from Baltimore, Md. He will serve in the Merchant Marine..... Pfc. Harry McCandloss (Field Artillery) reports that field problems are no more on Oahu, in the Hawaiians, but there has been work at ammunition depots and warehouses. Then the outfit moved to Camp Peepia, where they climbed mountains and through vine-filled gullies to find and blow up duds, clearing away barbed wire, brass shell casings and all the junk left behind by the 98th Division. He says the gullies were jungle-like, with the vines obscuring the view of the sky. He added: "I wouldn't send my dog through places like that. Koreans, among the prisoners-of-war, have been used to clear the wire entanglements, and some of the prisoners are only 14 and 15 years of age."

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

The Methodist Church has a new pastor, Rev. E. B. Cheney, who has been at the Titusville M. E. Church. He is to be married shortly. He succeeds Rev. Harold R. Fuss, who has been transferred to Hamonton..... A gasoline station is to be erected on the site of the former Finney-&-Fetter saw-mill, the property having been sold by Scott Kise..... Model Avenue is being paved and new drainage installed for the length of the block nearest Greenwood Avenue..... A reception for the faculty of the Elementary School was held recently, with a covered-dish supper included..... Earl B. Whitcraft, school principal, makes a hobby of collecting antiques..... The baggage room at the Reading Station is locked these days, after being a favorite spot for those who felt they needed a little rest..... There's a conductor on the Reading who likes to whisper gently in the ear of a sleeping passenger, "Langhorne," who he knows should be awakened when the train is pulling into West Trenton, while westbound.

The Edwin V. Savidges observed their 50th wedding anniversary a few days ago. Miss Betty Weart has announced her engagement to Trexler E. Kent, of Washington Crossing. He recently completed Army service..... Will Drako is the proud possessor of one of the early sketches of Hopewell, showing the streets and scattered houses in the days when the town was really small. It is believed that there are only two copies of it in existence. The artist, strangely enough, shows two trains on the Reading tracks, and both trains are on the same track but going in opposite directions..... Bill Sorvis, of West Broad Street, is attending Paris Air College, St. Louis, where his brother, Russell ("Molv") Sorvis graduated before going into the trans-Atlantic airplane service.

SPONSORS

And now for our recent sponsors, members of that huge company who have seen to it that the "Hopewell News" kept well-stocked with paper, ink, stencils and postage. Those who have cooperated thus in recent weeks are: R. H. Vansant, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Hausenbauer, Mr. John Stout and Mrs. Robert Faherty.

HE LOST HIS SHOES

Didja ever hear about the time that Harry Cox, the barber, lost a pair of shoes at the Hopewell Valley Golf Club, soon after it was opened? Well, somebody thought something should be done about it. So the word was passed around and before long, Harry began to receive packages in the mail. He soon had the greatest collection of old shoes anywhere this side of a shoe-repair shop. No lack of cooperation there.

IN CLOSING

There you have it--another issue. The news has been spun out, trimmed down and spouted forth in an effort to compress everything into this issue. But there'll be another in three weeks. We are getting closer and closer to the final issue, however, which as you may recall, is likely to be about the middle of January, according to present plans.

But meanwhile, those letters reporting on what's doing will be as welcome as ever, and enable the "News" to keep the other fellow informed. Best of luck!

97 W. Broad St.
Hopewell, N. J.

DEAN H. ASHTON.

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

VOL. III, No. 16

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47th Issue

SETS NEW SPEED RECORD

Returning servicemen will have to go some to better a record set by Cpl. Fred S. VanLiew in getting back into civilian attire. When he arrived in Hopewell, he already was wearing civilian clothes! In fact, Erwin W. Benson, who had served three years or so with him almost failed to recognize him, after planning to meet him.

This is how it happened. Fred, who had been in the Army over five years, was discharged at Fort Jackson, South Carolina where he had been a member of the 240th Aviation Ground Force Band. He did not get overseas although last Spring there was every indication that they were about to go. However, he had been stationed in several Southern States, Washington, and at Fort Lewes, Del. prior to going to Fort Jackson. When he was given his honorable discharge, he decided to visit relatives who lived in the South, and while there, he bought a civilian suit and wore it when he headed for Hopewell and home.

MANY MORE ARE RELEASED

Approximately 20 fellows have returned to Hopewell during the past three weeks and all join in saying "It's great to be home again!" Most of them feel that only the "breaks of the game" enabled them to get back at this time, knowing that thousands are still in Europe as well as the Pacific theatre. Unfortunately, it looks as if a considerable number will be delayed until after the beginning of the new year.

Any listing is bound to be incomplete, but here's a general idea of the situation:

Returned and Discharged

William H. Wyckoff, SM2/c, is back from waters around Japan, China and Okinawa where he served on the U.S.S. Preval doing a highly essential job of mine-sweeping. He previously had been in the Mediterranean aboard the same ship and carrying on the same hazardous work....Ruth Lawyer Honrie, Ph.M3/o in the Waves, is back home being released about a month after her husband, Sgt. William Henrie (Chemical Bn.) returned from Germany....Sgt. Robert L. Burd (Signal Construction Company) is back from Pacific assignments, which included work on Leyte in the Philippines...Likewise, Andrew Monteleone, GMI/o, has seen the last of Leyte as well as completing numerous PT patrol boat operations during combat on land and sea.

Sgt. Clarence Runyon, Jr., who came home last December after 33 months in Air Transport Command work based in Africa but taking him over wide areas throughout Africa, the Near East and India, also has obtained the long-awaited release. It began to look as if he was a "forgotten man," having been assigned upon his return to New Castle, Delaware. When he came home, he was suffering from an ear infection due to his long stay in tropical climate....Sgt. James Noonan, who came home from Italy in June after serving with a Bomb Squadron, is another who is no longer subject to Army orders.

Under the Army Air Force policy of releasing surplus personnel in the U.S., three Hopewell fellows have been released. They include William H. Boozer, who was well along in his Army Aviation training (he had been in service nearly two years but the beginning of his specialized work had been postponed); Cpl. Paul A. Ashton, who went into the Army Air Force as an Air Cadet, and served in Mississippi and Texas; and Cpl. William R. Bodine, who was at the Univ. of Buffalo, then at Sheppard Field, Texas, and released from Lowry Field, Colorado, where he had been sent to the Mechanic and Gunner School. Bill Boozer had been at Lansing, Mich., also in Colorado, New Mexico and Alabama.

S/Sgt. Harold Tobiason returned after long service that included Africa, Italy, France and Germany, he being with an AAA Gun Battalion....George F. Rightmire, RMS/o, had been most recently on the U.S.S. Doyon in the Pacific, but the Navy had taken him to England three times, with journeys around South America, to South Africa as well as to Mozambique, in East Africa....T/Sgt. James N. Daniels (Artillery) had been in the South Pacific campaigns for Guadalcanal, New Guinea and New Caledonia.

MANY MORE ARE RELEASED (continued)Returned or Due to Arrive

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"We passed through a lot of farming country on our way here and everything looks well tended. They use every inch of ground and plant right up to the buildings. Even the sides of steep hills have some kind of orchards. The level-ground is all planted with rice. It's good to see decent houses for a change from those grass and bamboo shacks on Luzon. The Japs are cooperating O.K. and are using their own police force and operating the trains, etc. Everything is very military. Even the police and railroad men salute each other. Every one salutes us and some even bow.

"The people differ. Some seem very friendly and full of smiles, other, just look. We saw some soldiers going home and they just walked past with their heads down and never noticed, just as though we weren't there. The kids are always the same. They shout and wave with some of them saluting with big toothy smiles on their faces. Many of the Japs wear armbands reading 'Police,' 'Railway,' 'Interpreter,' 'Plumber,' etc. They have evidently been O.K.'d by the Army."

TRANSATLANTIC TALK

It had been over a year since the Harold Johnsons had heard the voice of their son, Pfc. William E. Johnson, so they were more than glad when advance notice came that he would be putting through a call at a designated hour. He phoned from Shrivensham, England, where he has been taking special courses sponsored by the Army. The conversation lasted four minutes.

LEGION POST ORGANIZED

Hopewell again has an American Legion Post with about 35 members at present, including fellows who served in World War II and a number of World War I veterans who have withdrawn from the Duffield Post at Skillman. Claude Dilts has been named as Acting Commander; with Ralph Moratto and William Eelman as vice commanders; Walter Peterson as adjutant; Jesso Sproat as finance officer; Lloyd Drake, chaplain; Ernest Blackwell, historian, and Oliver Jenkins, sergeant-at-arms.

HALLOWE'EN FRANKS

Hallowe'eners gave the town the usual "going over." On the morning after, one of Scott Kiso's flat-body farm wagons was resting on its side on the sidewalk in front of Cutler's drugstore. It still remains to be explained how local officers as well as special police who had been "alerted" for the occasion were unaware that the wagon was being brought through the streets and overturned on the most prominent corner in town.

The road sign in front of the Presbyterian Church was torn out of the ground and left on the sidewalk in front of Terrault's residence. "Stop" signs elsewhere were removed. Leaves were set afire at various points, windows were soaped and ice cream signs left in the streets to alarm motorists. An old jalopy reposed in the backyard of the Plump property at East Broad Street and Princeton Avenue.

A party in the Elementary School, featuring a magician, judging of costumes, music and refreshments attracted a record-breaking crowd.

HOMER LEMING ENLIVENS ELECTION

Entering the race for a seat in Borough Council at the last minute, G. Homer Leming, former Staff Sergeant who was wounded while serving overseas with the Army Air Force, enlivened the General Election locally on Nov. 6th. Circulars in his behalf were distributed a couple of days prior to the balloting. When the votes were counted, he had received 168. The two places to be filled went to George Clark, with 400 votes, and William H. Drake, with 222 votes.

Clarence A. Runyon, member of Council, was elected as Mayor without opposition. He will succeed Russell K. Metz. J. Howard Dilts was re-elected as Collector of Taxes, being unopposed. In the Congressional election, Frank A. Mathews, Jr., of Riverton, a Republican, triumphed over the two Democratic candidates, Frank S. Katzenbach and George Pellettieri, to take over representation of Mercer-Burlington counties in place of D. Lano Powers, now State Public Utility Commissioner. Three Democrats were elected to the Assembly, while Albert H. Roos, Republican, was renominated as County Clerk; his victory assures continuance of Joseph Pierson, of Hopewell, as deputy County Clerk.

TRAMP GETS "BUM'S RUSH"

One day during the past Summer, Mrs. Loster Paul was seated on the front porch, sowing, when a tramp came along Columbia Avenue. He approached and said:

"My pants are torn, will you sew 'em for me?"

"How can I sew your pants--are you crazy?" Mrs. Paul replied, in her amazement. The tramp replied: "I'll take them off!"

"You will not--and clear out of here!" Mrs. Paul exclaimed.

The tramp saw that Mrs. Paul had fire in her eye, and shuffled away.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Dad, what is your birth-stone?"

"I think it's the grindstone."

MEETS OLD FRIENDS

Stanley Lutz, Sl/c, is at Tengan, Okinawa, with a Naval Construction Battalion, and states that he understands that Bob Solan is on the same island. They met while swimming previously, then being in the Marshall Islands. Lutz says that Frank L. Maple, serving in another Naval Const. Bn., also is on Okinawa; also that Bob L. Lutz who had been with Lutz, was assigned to another unit when their outfit broke

SEASON FOR SUPPERS

The "supper season" is in full swing in Hopewell. The Old School Baptist Church holds its donation visit-supper last Thursday night in honor of Elder and Mrs. C.W. Vaughn. Two nights later, the Grange held its big oyster supper, with a menu that made the patrons have no regrets at paying \$1.50 a plate.

The famous chicken supper served by the ladies of Calvary Baptist Church comes along this Saturday, Nov. 17th. Plenty of everything will be served up, with lots of workers on the job to handle the crowd.

LUCKY FIND

Finding a \$20 bill in a Trenton store on a recent visit, Richard Wyckoff, Fifth Grader, thought he was pretty lucky. He turned it in to see whether there was a claimant. A few days later, his Mother, Mrs. Horace Wyckoff, was mentioning it to Mrs. Edward Lindsay while they were riding to Trenton on the bus. Mrs. Lindsay exclaimed that her sister, who lives in Trenton, had lost \$20 in a Trenton store. As a result, a checkup followed and it proved that the \$20 found by Dick had belonged to Mrs. Lindsay's sister! The latter saw to it that he received a reward.

"SWEATING IT OUT"

A number of fellows know all too well what it means to be "sweating it out" while awaiting transportation home. Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) is at Liege, Belgium and reports that "We are supposed to return as a unit probably in January but we are all skeptical." His battalion sent about 50 men home on ago or on points. He is still acting as a message center chief.... T/5 Harry J. Erickson (Field Artillery) says he is still "sweating out my return home", being at Nurnberg, Germany. He adds: "Now with the strikes and loss shipping, I will be delayed even further. I have but 60 points while those with 80 are still waiting shipment."..... Cpl. Joseph Castagnola (Ordnance) wrote from Rheims, France, that "The transportation is my only delay in getting home. I have enough points for discharge, but am just sweating out a boat." Recently, he had been in Czechoslovakia, Bavaria, back to Germany and then to France. He adds that "nothing to do but eat, sleep and go to the movies twice a day."

On the Pacific side, T/Sgt. Charles "Rog" Hurlay (Coast Artillery) was at Saipan on Oct. 23 "waiting for transportation home." As he described it, "I have been on the way home since the 25th of Sept. and still no nearer and from the number of things, I'll be here a long while yet. Thought for sure I'd be home by Nov. 1 but things just do not turn out that way for me. I read the other day that 70 per cent. of the ships are over here. Where are they hiding the ships?..... And on Iwo Jima, Sgt. John ("Jack") Flagg, (Air Force Fighter Squadron) wrote Oct. 20th that "I still don't know when I'm leaving. They're down to the 75-point man but haven't sent anyone out for the past two weeks. The officers that were censoring our letters are on their way home and we're still here..... And Cpl. Edward H. Esche (Signal A.W.Bn.) at Luzon, in the Philippines, says: "There are rumors about us being on our way by Nov. 15th but the only time I will believe that is when I land in the good old U.S."

WITH OTHERS IN THE SERVICE

Robert E. Lowe, #2/o, was in New York harbor for the Navy Day celebrations. He is assigned to the U.S.S. Midway, largest aircraft carrier afloat. At present, he is at home on leave..... Pvt. Marvin Allen, (Army Air Force) was home on his first furlough, coming from Shoppard Field, Texas..... Glenn Agin, who enlisted in the Merchant Marine, is now on the U.S.S. American Navigator at Long Beach, Calif.....

Jack Gintor, A/S, was visiting in town, home from Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Chicago. He stayed with friends in Princeton since his Mother and brother are living at Donison, Texas, adjacent to Perrin Field, where his father, Captain John Gintor, is on duty as an Air Force Chaplain. Jack confided that he wished his pet bulldog, "Nubby," had been around while he was back in town... John V. Montolomo, Pm. 3/o, who had been assigned to the N.A.T.C. School at Memphis, has made a trip out of San Francisco but advises that he will be discharged when he returns from his present trip... Ernest Gasroll, A/S, has been back on "boot" leave from the U.S.N.T.C. at Great Lakes, Ill.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- to
- Bruno F. Bealkowski--Dec. 7
- Zigmund Bealkowski--Nov. 27
- William R. Bodine--Nov. 28
- Robert L. Burd--Dec. 3
- John L. Burton--Nov. 30
- Edgar A. Dormer--Dec. 8
- Clarence G. Laird--Nov. 23
- Thomas F. Fessell--Nov. 28
- Walter V. Rightmire--Nov. 30
- Stanley H. Runyon--Nov. 17

MARKET-DAY IN FRANCE

On a recent Saturday morning, Pfc. John Garrett Conover, now with a Finance Disbursing Section at Etriat, France, went to see the French Saturday-morning market-day. Stands had been set up along both sides of the main street in the town, where people brought their wares to sell. "You could buy anything from shoe laces and dog sharks up to jewelry and ladies' finery," he reports. "But what prices! My pal was wanting a hair brush. We saw one that would cost maybe 15¢ or 25¢ at home. They wanted 385 francs which is about \$7.70. He didn't buy."

And as for prices, Garrett tells of having a "pretty good" fish dinner while on a recent three-day leave to Paris, and the meal cost \$4 per. Where he is stationed, fellows come through on their way to furloughs, and the Army processes them and changes their money. When they return, the same money exchange is necessary. About 650 men are handled each day. "They come in with all kinds of money, Belgian, French, German, Austrian, Czech, Russian, Dutch and Danish--all kinds including counterfeits," Garrett states. His work is to compute what each gets and prepare a slip for the cashier. The town itself was a tourist resort and consists chiefly of restaurants, hotels and souvenir shops. At present, GI population prevails and their office is a former restaurant.

CORRECTION

The item in the previous issue of the "News" stating that Pfc. James S. Brizzoll (Engineers) was aboard ship and then called back ashore for further duty, was erroneous. It develops that his brother, Graham, is the one who had that unhappy experience.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

A thief broke into the Colonial Theatre quite recently, damaging a candy-vending machine to obtain the money inside it...The steeple on the Catholic Church has been painted green, and the gold cross, after being re-gilded, restored to the top of the steeple...Dennis Rayner, who was employed at Eastern Aircraft, is now working for Bregenzer Bros., the carpenters...Ed Ashton, former taxi operator and now a crossing watchman near Skillman, is building a house at Stoutsburg, next to the property purchased by the Rayners...Sponcor Moore, the grocer, now has Charles Holman in his employ as a butcher (yes, meat is that plentiful!) and has improved his store with the addition of an electrically-cooled vegetable bin.

Erwin Benson, former paratrooper, overturned in his car on the Hopewell-Ponnington road on a recent night, apparently dozing at the wheel. He was unhurt. Erwin is now "on the road" selling fire extinguisher equipment, etc..Two accidents on successive nights at points less than 50 yards apart just east of the Borough occurred recently. Albert Roller's ice truck knocked several guard posts awry and rammed into a tree just beyond the bridge over the brook; but Roller was unhurt. On the next night, a car hit the bridge abutment and more guard posts suffered. John Shir, the driver, was under hospital care with chest injuries while William F. Lenz sustained a fracture of the nose. Shimp, it was reported, had reached for a lunch-box and the car swerved off the road.

With her husband due to return, Mrs. Shirley Solbie Boico, has given up her teaching position in Hamilton Township and gone by auto with her son, Fred, Jr. to Cheyenne, Wyoming, where they had spent the Summer. Captain Boico had served with an Aerial Photography Group at Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Japan...Russell K. Motz is serving as local chairman for the Victory Loan campaign...Clyde Ashton, Seventh Grade pupil, gave a magic show last week at the Friday assembly of the Elementary School. The program also included a display of war souvenirs...Re-paving of Model Avenue is almost completed.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

On the commercial air lines, a "short" is a non-priority passenger who must step aside if a priority passenger comes along. If possible, the air line gives "protection,"--that is, arranges to continue the journey by a later plane or by train.

Recently, a young stewardess, unfamiliar with the flight slang, went to work for one of the airlines. An hour out of Chicago she was horrified when she received the following instructions by radio: "Prepare to remove shorts at Detroit. No protection."

IN CLOSING

There you have it, and now we're at the end of this chapter. Should tell you, before closing, that financial aid with this issue has come from the following well-wishers: Mrs. Mary Hixson, Mrs. Leslie Warman and Mrs. Joseph Castagnola.

Incidentally, this is the 47th issue of the "Hopewell News" and present plans calls for just three more--the final one to appear about January 15th. Here's hoping that Uncle Sam says before that time arrives, "Sorry I've delayed you so long--but now you're headed for home--got going!" Best of luck.

Hopewell News

--- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher ---

Vol. III, No. 17

Hopewell, N.J., December 4, 1945

48th Issue

NEW INDUSTRY TO START PRODUCTION

Equipment is being installed in Hopewell's new industrial plant on Model Avenue--a wholesale jewelry manufacturing factory set up in the former school property. Production is expected to start before the end of this week. Jobs will be available, it is reported, for 50 to 60 women. If that occurs, the industry will rank as the second largest in town, next to H.A. Smith Company.

Renovations are being rushed to completion. A quantity of machinery has already been delivered. The owners, who purchased the Hopewell Jewelry Co. business conducted heretofore by Adolph Sickinger, have two other plants, one in New York and the other at Bergen Heights, New Jersey. Sickinger has been retained by the new firm as foreman. In addition to the interior alterations, considerable excavation as well as the removal of trees has taken place to assure adequate lighting.

BARBER-SHOP WOES

The "Hot Stove Card Club" was in a dither Saturday morning. When its members walked into the back room of the Cox & Gray barber shop on Seminary Avenue, they saw the stove all apart, with the temperature a little low for real comfort. Rebellion almost flared up. It looked for a few minutes as if the card fans might decide to discontinue paying their "rent." Harry Cox explained (?) what had happened thus: "Somebody dropped a dime in the stove so we had to tear it all apart."

Actually, one of the metal parts had cracked and repairs were necessary. Ed VanArsdale took over the repair job. By the time he came back with the repaired part, the "Hot Stove Card Club" members were really ready to work on him. While he assembled it, the advice he received came thick and fast. But he bore up well, and before long the stove was ready.

Once the fire was going nicely, things returned to normal and now it looks as if the "Hot Stovers" will have a comfortable Winter.

WEDDING BELLS

Erwin W. Benson is married--the ceremony taking place Nov. 27th, little more than three months after his return from service in France and Germany as a paratrooper with the 13th Airborne Division Artillery. His bride is the former Miss Helene Bretschge, of Trenton. They were married in the rectory of St. Francis Church, Front Street, Trenton, and honeymooned in New York. Now it is readily understood why Erwin changed his earlier notion that he might remain in military service in the hope of getting a look at Tokyo.

And for Pfc. James S. Brizzell (Engineers) newly arrived from Germany, the wedding bells also are about to ring. Plans had been made well in advance of his return to Miss Marian Ruyin this coming Saturday, Dec. 8th. Before shipping home, he had been aiding in the building of a huge air field at Berlin. Earlier service in the Infantry took him through Holland and to Munster and Waborn, Germany.

While he isn't being married right now, S/Sgt. John ("Jack") L. Burton (Ordnance) apparently has found the girl of his choice, too. She lives in England, and that is where he met her during the three years that he spent in that country with the Army Air Force. Jack returned to Hopewell quite recently. According to reports, he may go back to England as soon as he can be reasonably certain that she can return to the U.S. with him.

BAPTISTS RAISE LARGE FUND

Responding generously to a "World Emergency Sunday of Sacrifice" appeal, the congregation of Calvary Baptist Church placed \$599.55 on the collection plates this past Sunday. The offering was apart from the usual collection. The total exceeds last year's individual gifts. All the money will be used for world needs, including the restoration of churches, hospitals and schools in the mission fields; church extension work in new permanent communities in the U.S., and other phases of the Baptist denominational program.

The amount raised "for others" is of added significance when it is recalled that an Anniversary offering taken in October to start a fund for a new church heating plant totaled \$216.70. Pastor Raymond A. Gray commented that "It shows that our people have caught the true spirit of giving of the things with which God has blessed them."

COMING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS

The homeward-bound tide of veterans continues to run strong, with the Pacific areas being well represented at last. Nearly a dozen fellows have received their honorable discharges, and almost as many more have returned or are expected momentarily, with their civilian status about to be restored. The lists, probably not entirely complete, follow:

Returned and Discharged

Pfc. John B. Boyle, son of Mrs. Charles Ockelmann, ended 10 weeks of suspense when he phoned from Camp Shanks, N.Y. to report that he was back from overseas and would be discharged promptly from Fort Monmouth, N.J. He was with an Eng. Avn. Bn. S/Sgt. John ("Jack") L. Burton (see Page 1) had been in England at the time when the heavy air raids occurred. He worked at several air bases from which American planes took off for their destructive bombing missions over Germany.

Sgt. Alan F. Hart came home from India where he had been about a year and a half. He was on detached service most of that time, being with an Advance Depot Group. Unable to arrange transportation on the same ship for his wife, a Red Cross worker from Brockton, Mass. whom he met enroute to India and married last August, AJ returned via the Atlantic Ocean, while the ship on which she embarked came in the opposite direction and is due in California shortly.

And S/Sgt. Charles "Reg" Hurley, with a record of about 42 months of duty in the Pacific, is finally back home. He spent months at an outpost in the Hawaiian Islands with the Coast Artillery, then transferred and was in the Marianas and elsewhere putting an end to Japanese resistance. He had phoned Nov. 11th from San Francisco of his arrival there. Then days went by with no word. A turkey was held in readiness for a homecoming feast. On Monday, Nov. 24th, "Reg's" step-mother decided it would have to be cooked, and it was perfectly timed, for "Reg" walked in that afternoon. His father, Leigh Hurley, decided to take a week's vacation after that.

A/T Edward J. Kettenborg, Jr. was discharged at Trux Field, Wisconsin. He had been in the Army Air Force for 20 months and previously had served as instructor in the shop at Craig Field, Selma, Ala.

Aroh Litzon, AMM1/c, is in town after being expected from the Pacific for some time. He had been in Japan, reaching there aboard an aircraft carrier. He was a gunner on a Navy "Avenger" plane, and in his months aboard two different carriers, had figured in strikes against Japanese warships and airfields, as well as in numerous island attacks and running fights with Jap plane pilots.

T/Sgt. Wilbur Lowe came home after two years in Europe, including service near Anohn, Germany, when the German "bulge" developed last December. He was with a Mobile Repair Unit of an Ordnance Company. . . . Stephen Rafalowski, MM3/c, served nearly three years in the Navy, earning battle stars for the campaigns for the Gilbert and Marshall Islands groups, as well as Okinawa.

Sgt. Edwin T. Shoppard, of the U.S. Marine Corps, was given his long-awaited discharge on the day before Thanksgiving. Three years previous, on the day after Thanksgiving, he had entered service. He saw action in the seizure of Kwajalein in the Gilbert Island group, and later in the capture of Saipan and Tinian in the Marshall Islands. He returned to the States about a year ago, and had been in the Ordnance School & Repair Depot at Quantico, Va. since February.

Pfc. James Solan is a civilian after being overseas for a year. His father is connected with the Hopewell Valley Golf Club.

Vernon L. Tomple, MM3/c, awaited for some time, arrived and is living with his wife at North Branch, near Somerville. He crossed and re-crossed the Pacific numerous times, being on a supply ship that carried everything imaginable, including Japanese prisoners. The crew described the stomach as "terrific." On another trip, the ship moved 150 Americans who had been released from prisoner-of-war camps. Vernon had been in the Navy three years, and said that radar protection lessened the risks on their travels. Soon after returning, he had a "hash" session with former friends, including Bill Wyckoff, who had come back quite recently after service in the Mediterranean and waters around Okinawa and Japan aboard a minesweeper, and Edgar Dorrner, who had served with Ordnance in Belgium, France and Germany.

Returned and About To Be Discharged, or Expected

Cpl. Graham L. Bonson and Cpl. Julius Yuhas, both of whom served in Air Wings of the U. S. Marine Corps in the far Pacific, are expected home shortly. Graham was an Aviation Machinist's Mate and has been at Loyte and Mindanao in the Philippines as well as on Owl, off the northern coast of New Guinea. It is understood that Yuhas is aboard the same ship with Benson on the homeward-bound trip.

Pfc. Anton C. Holstrom (S.A.W. Battalion) has just come back from Germany, after being in France, Belgium and Luxembourg where he engaged in radar work.

J. Hilbert Hurley, Q.M.3/c aboard an LST that saw action in Pacific invasions including the crucial landings at Okinawa, telephoned on Nov. 27th that he was back in California. . . . George C. Koepffel, 3rd, S1/c, is on his way back from the Pacific and will be discharged. He was in a Navy gunnery crew aboard a merchant ship.

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COMING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS (continued)

Lieut. William G. Lowe (Army Air Force) has been due for release, most recently being at Springfield, Mass. He had been at Florence, S.C., following graduation in July from the Navigators School at Selman Field, Ga. and prior graduation from the Bombardier School at Midland, Texas. He was home early in November on furlough, then went South but another week at home followed before moving up to

Lt. Col. J. R. Pierson (Army Medical Corps) is expecting his discharge. He has been on the staff at a Fort Dix hospital since he came East in May from Portland, Oregon. Earlier, he had been at Fort Warren, Wyoming, as chief of the medical staff. Lieut. David L. Powell (Ord. A.M. Co. Avn.), brother of Mrs. Wm. Sangston, has called from England that he will be home within a few days, expecting to make the crossing on the "Queen Mary."

RETURNS TO HOSPITAL STAFF

Lieut. Bertha A. Sheppard, Army Nurses Corps, now is on terminal leave and will be discharged about Christmas, but she already has returned to the nursing staff at Mercer Hospital, Trenton. Because of the strenuous life she underwent while serving in North Africa, Italy and France, she has about 90 days of accumulated furlough time which accounts for her virtual release from the Army before discharge papers actually are received. Miss Sheppard had the unique experience of being enroute from France to Japan when orders came diverting the ship shortly before it reached the Panama Canal, making New York its port of destination instead.

FIRST SNOWFALL

Two to three inches of snow fell last Thursday night, getting Winter off to an early start. The ground stayed white for three days with the temperature in the 20's much of the time. Attempts at slodging and skiing were not very successful, as it was a "wet snow."

The storm served to emphasize a plea that Borough Council do something to assure Winter sports facilities, especially in respect to slodging and ice-skating. The appeal was made by Earl B. Whitcraft, principal of the Elementary School. He pointed out that hills for slodging should be designated, then safeguarded and supervised. As for skating, he suggested that the Cromery and H.A. Smith ponds be flooded and then having skating regulated.

It remains to be seen whether Borough Council will do anything about it—or whether skaters must travel some distance to skate, and sloddors be exposed to the risks that lead to one serious mishap last year.

EARN BIG REWARD

Andy Wyckoff, who lives on the Leon Hill farm east of the Borough, befriended a dog that appeared at a window of the house the other night. Andy put it in the barn and with the cooperation of Hill's daughter, Mrs. Donnis VanLiew, carried food to it. It was a huge dog, taller than a man when it stood on its hind legs. It didn't take long before Andy learned the name of the owner. The latter rejoiced over finding the dog, and when he departed handed Andy a \$20 reward.

LEGION CHARTERS HOPEWELL POST

A new American Legion Post is taking shape in Hopewell, with the thought that it will be a rallying point for those who have seen recent military service. A temporary charter has been obtained from the State office and the group will be known as the Hopewell Valley Post. While organization is in progress, Claude Dilts is serving as Temporary Commander. As soon as World War II veterans are familiar with the way a Legion Post functions, however, it is planned to name officers from among the younger members. Several veterans of World War I have withdrawn from the Post at Skillman to aid the new post. Meetings are being held twice a month in the Mechanics Hall on Seminary Avenue.

NEW YOUTH GROUP ACTIVE

Special events during the holiday season and thereafter are being planned by a new Youth Fellowship group, organized for young people of High School age or above. Donald Allon heads the group with Mrs. Raymond A. Gray as senior advisor. At a meeting next Sunday night in Calvary Baptist Church, plans will be made to attend a special Christmas program service to be held in the same church on Dec. 23 at 7.30 P.M. Efforts also are being made to assure community carol singing on the eve of Christmas. Another event for the young people will be a New Year's meeting on Sunday evening, Dec. 30, at which the girls will entertain the fellows at a waffle supper, to be followed by a New Year's Resolution program at 7.30.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mama Skunk named her twin sons, Out and In. So she would never be alone, Out stayed in when In was out and In stayed in when Out was out. One day In stayed out so long, his Ma was worried, so she sent Out out to find In and bring In in. Out was in in a jiffy with In. "Quick work," said Mama Skunk. "How did you locate In so quickly?" "It wasn't hard," said Out, "Instinct."

MEXICAN RAILROAD LABORERS DEPART

After working on the Reading railroad tracks near Hopewell for several months, a group of about 30 Mexicans have started homeward. They regarded Hopewell as a "friendly place," but found West Trenton, where they were housed, less so, they said. The group had been brought into the U.S. on temporary passes because of the shortage of American labor. It had become a familiar sight to see the "rail gang," supervised by a Mexican wearing a wide-brimmed hat, giving the "heave-ho" to sections of track or working on the road-bed. The Mexican was needed to translate the orders given in English by the foreman, to others in the group.

Nearly every one of the Mexicans carried back home a Sears-Roebuck catalog. They called them "fashion books," and they were wanted in order that their wives in Mexico could design new clothes after the latest fashions. But other items also were keenly sought. In fact, they relied upon Jose Carballal, taxi operator, and his wife because Mr. Carballal speaks Spanish and could translate their requests into English. In fact, Mrs. Carballal rounded up the Sears-Roebuck catalogs from friends who were willing to make this "Good Neighbor" gesture. Last Saturday, a number of the Mexicans went to the Hopewell bank to obtain American coins, to be used later as ornaments on bracelets, earrings, etc. One man wanted to get a combination lock, and others wanted to replenish their stock of ammunition.

The men come from the state of Jalisco, in Central Mexico about 250 miles north of Mexico City. Many had come direct from farms. They were considered well-mannered. They left Sunday from West Trenton for Phila. and thence to Mexico.

SCHOOL CHILDREN ENJOY TREAT

A turkey dinner, served at a charge of only 15 cents, made Thanksgiving a memorable event at the Elementary School. About 200 made reservations and feasted on turkey with all the "fixins." A community service of Thanksgiving was held in the Methodist Church with Dr. Edward Jurji, supply pastor of the Presbyterian Church, as the speaker.

LONG JOURNEY IN SHORT TIME

Robert I. Hill, MI3/c, was released from the Navy last Saturday, about 48 hours after reporting to Bainbridge, Md. following a 10-day leave. He had been in the Navy almost 30 months, with extended duty on the Pacific.

On his last trip covering three months' time, Bob went clear out to Tokyo Bay, covering approximately 22,000 miles. On his earlier trip, his ship, the U.S.S. Knox, carried invasion troops for landings in Leyte, as well as Saipan and Tinian. His second voyage began on VJ-Day (August 14) from Portland, with about 2,000 Marines, Seabees and Navy replacements taken aboard at San Francisco, and delivered at Pearl Harbor. Then they loaded on Army supplies, etc. and went to Eniwotok and Ulithia, Guam, where Marines and about 1,500 other passengers disembarked. They also visited Leyte, Samar, Manila and San Fabian, at the latter point picking up the 25th Army Division enroute to Wakanaura, Japan. When word came that his Mother had died, Bob was given a transfer to the cruiser "Cloveleaf", which proceeded to Tokyo Bay before starting a fast nine-day run from there to Pearl Harbor. Then Bob obtained air transportation and in a 12½-hour flight, mostly at night, he reached Oakland, Calif., and came across country by train.

ENCOUNTERED SUICIDE PLANE

Wilbur O. Niven, RM3/c, better known as "Pete" when he lived in Hopewell, was aboard a mine-layer in waters adjacent to Japan when the ship was hit last June by a Jap suicide plane. The crash cost the lives of 10 men, with 25 others injured. The mine-layer had accounted for 11 planes and one enemy sub. Previously, "Pete" had served on a destroyer escort in the Atlantic. His brother, Cpl. Wm. Russo, Niven, was in England, France, Belgium and Austria with the 11th Armored Division, a part of General Patton's Third Army. More recently he has been with the 4th Armored in Germany. Another brother, Sgt. Everett R. Niven is with the Army Air Force at Cincinnati, Ohio, after training in Miami, Fla.

SERVING IN JAPAN AND OKINAWA

Capt. Robert M. Moyer (Engineers) is now at Motsoyama, Japan, after a stay on Okinawa, during which a typhoon wreaked havoc. He lost all his possessions except the uniform he was wearing when the storm hit.... Sidney Lutz, S1/c, is with the Seabees at Tengan, Okinawa, and reports that Frank T. Maplo, S2/c, is also there. He added that he believed that Robert Solan, of the U.S. Marines, also was there, although he had not seen him since they met some time ago at the Marshall Islands while both were swimming.

APPEAR ON NEW YORK STAGE

Emily Carballal and her brother, Joseph, of Railroad Avenue, took part in a stage performance in the Alvinio Playhouse on Broadway, New York, last Saturday. Both are attending a School of Dramatics there every Saturday. In the show, Joseph sang two songs while Emily played a part in a Shakespearean scene. Emily is the Sixth Grade pupil in the Elementary School who wrote a patriotic play last year that was staged with marked success.

CHINESE MERCHANTS SURROUND SHIP

Chinese coolies were ready to do business from their sampans surrounding the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Boxer as soon as they reached the China Sea and the city of Tsingtao, according to Harold VanLiew, AO.M.2/o. He writes:

"We anchored about a half mile off the shore of the city and in a half hour about 50 Chinese sampans were all around the ship, the coolies trying to sell silk, pipes and little hats like they wear. Some of our fellows let down ropes and the coolies would tie a basket to the ropes. With a lot of jibbering and jabbering and holding up 5,4,3,2 and then 1 finger, a bargain would be made. The sailor would put the money in the basket and send it down, then get back whatever he had bargained for. This went on all morning until there was too much commotion, then the seamen guard broke out the fire hoses and sprayed them with water. Being kind of chilly, I guess, they went back to the city. But they were right back the next morning but most of the fellows didn't pay any attention to them. Everything they had to sell was in the city and could be had much cheaper. The Marines who have been here for almost three weeks told us not to give them too much money for anything as they are easily spoiled. One fellow bought a beautiful watch for \$7; some got chopsticks, cameras and curios. It takes a lot of bargaining but once a price is set, they won't cheat your nor short-change you.

"Tsingtao is quite a large city, with about 40,000 residents. We are able to hire a rickshaw for a dollar for the whole afternoon. You can bet that a sailor will get his dollar's worth, too. I heard a couple of fellows tell how they were racing each other down the street, and another one was telling how he saw a couple of them giving the rickshaw coolie a ride.....Some of the fellows found a place where they could get steaks and eggs for 27 cents. It almost sounds impossible. The Chinese would much rather have the American dollar, for which we get 12,000 yen in exchange. A 100-yen bill is worth 2 1/2 cents so you can imagine the fistful you get for two or three dollars. The inflation in China is really terrible. American money is more stable and the value doesn't go up and down....Going ashore, we have to take canteens of water and are not to eat fresh fruit or drink saki. They say too much saki could make a person blind.

"I saw the Great Wall of China when we were off the coast of Luhing. That's the city where the Great Wall runs down to the sea. We looked through field glasses and also the 40 mm. gun directors. They have a very powerful telescope on them and it really brought the wall up close. You could even see the blockhouses."

BRIEF ITEMS ABOUT THOSE IN THE SERVICE

A promotion to S/Sgt. came through recently for John ("Jack") W. Flagg, who has been on Iwo Jima with an Army Air Force Fighter Squadron....Pfc. Edward J. Tucker who was in France working as a crane mechanic at a seaport, was sent to the Pacific but is reported hospitalized with an infection. He has been in service three years and out of the States over 18 months....Charles Hausenbauer (Navy) is back from Hawaii where he was in radio work and is due to go to Ohio.

Pvt. George W. Brain, who went into the Army in May and had Infantry training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., is now in Italy, sailing from Newport, Va. to Naples..... T/5 William J. Ashton, who trained at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. with an Infantry Scout Dog Platoon, is home on furlough and then reports to Fort Dix for reassignment. He has reenlisted for a year....John Cromwell, HA2/o is now attending a Navy Dental Technician's School at Camp Peary, Va.....Pvt. Thomas Pancoast was home on furlough from Lowry Field, Colo. and expecting to be shipped out shortly. He went into the Army last July and took his "basic" at Keosler Field, Miss.....Jack Ginter, A/S, met Stanley Boalkowski, S1/o, at the Great Lakes Naval Training School, Chicago, recently. Both are stationed there....Colon H. Smith, A/S, attending the Midshipman's School at Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y., was in town recently, after being commissioned as an Ensign....Cpl. Wilbur U. Hurley (Air Force Fighter Sqdn.) has been at Mongtsh, near the Indo-China border, being transferred to the 51st Fighter Group, the oldest in China. Previously he was at Yangkai, China.

VETERANS DOING O.K.

How are the GIs doing who are back in civilian life? O.K., buddy. One Tronton plant hired 15 men, including 5 ex-servicemen. The job involved work near large ovens. After a few days, only five men of the group were left. They were the veterans! As one commented: "I worked harder than that in the Army and got less pay, so I'm doing all right."

And a North Jersey employer was quoted in newspapers as saying: "Veterans are our most punctual, most polite and quietest employees. Everyone has come back an improved person. That's not hokey, it's the truth."

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- * BIRTHDAY GREETINGS *
- * to *
- * / Joseph C. Castagnola--Dec. 13 *
- * / Donald G. Dilts--Dec. 24 *
- * / Lawrence B. Hurley--Dec. 4 *
- * / C. Reginald Hurley--Dec. 1 *
- * / Edward Kettenburg--Dec. 18 *
- * / E. Forrest Lowe--Dec. 26 *
- * / Richard C. Sutphen--Dec. 22 *
- * / Harold Temple--Dec. 22 *
- * / Stephen Woolston--Dec. 14 *
- * / Farvin R. Stryker--Dec. 21 *
- * * * * *

STRIKES TOO PLENTIFUL

Every week there seems to be a new strike to worry about. For days, a dire threat that Public Service maintenance and repair workers would stop work has hung over the State, but now appears to have eased off. If it had taken place, 80 percent of the power and light facilities in New Jersey would have been crippled. Both sides have now pledged to continue negotiations until a settlement is reached.

Many workers at the General Motors plant in Trenton (known as Eastern Aircraft until production of Navy planes ceased following VJ-Day) are affected by the strike originating in Detroit and affecting all GM plants. A number of Hopewell residents are hit by the suspension of work....Then there was a strike involving milk delivery men, which really got customers aroused because of non-delivery for several days. However, Hopewell with local sources of supply weathered that one rather well....At the Montgomery-Ward store in Trenton, clerks went on a one-week strike, while several other industries there have been affected by labor troubles.

As usual, the general public has no way of judging the right-and-wrong of the disputes, but does wish that a way would be found to "get on" with the production of civilian goods.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Housewives rejoiced over the lifting of food rationing about two weeks ago on all edibles except sugar. No longer were ration coupons needed for general purchases, and ration tokens were called in from all the stores. Auto tires still remain on the ration list.....Mrs. Pearl Stout has given up her position in the Post Office, and Bill Sangston has returned to duty, after holding a job for a while at Eastern Aircraft....Earl B. Whitcraft, school principal, required six stitches in his hand when it plunged through a pane of glass while he was attempting to open a window at the Elementary School....The school experienced cesspool trouble, causing flooding in the basement, and a fronded search for somebody who could give the exact location of the cesspool.

Scott Kise had a public sale last Saturday to dispose of farm wagons, harness, etc. remaining after the old Finney & Fetter sawmill on Louellen Street, which he owned in recent years, had been torn down....County employoes were in town about ten days clearing away loaves on Broad Street, but the cleanup by the Borough on the side streets seems to be moving even more slowly.

John Terrault sustained injuries and damaged his car in a crash near Froehold recently. He is a drug salesman.....A yellow bar moving over the Reading tracks has been provided by the Sperry Rail Service to locate defective sections of rail.... Donald Allen and Ernest Gotthilf have been chosen as a team from Mercer County to give a demonstration this week at the New York poultry show. They will show their skill in drawing and preparing fowl for the consumer, and have had special instruction from Mrs. Herbert Voorhoes concerning the wrapping of fancy birds.

LAST-MINUTE NEWS

Here is further word about those returning home.....Lieut. Edward S. Malesky, former Hopewell teacher, is back from overseas duty with an Engineers Combat Battalion. He is living at Allentown, Pa. but is not planning to resume teaching, but will study engineering. He has a leg injury that gives him a little trouble at times, but he did not lose a finger, as rumored, although one is somewhat out of shape. He is a talented pianist.....Cpl. Graham L. Bonson (Marines) has telegraphed that he has arrived at El Toro, Calif., and Cpl. Julius Yuhns (Marines) probably is there also.... Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Finance Disbursing Section) has cabled that it looks as if he is about to start back and may arrive in three weeks...Hartwell P. Vannoy, who served in Germany with an Anti-Tank Company, is said to be Hopewell-bound.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Don't you think, doctor, you rather overcharged when Johnny had the measles?"

"You must remember, Mrs. D., that includes 12 visits."

"Yes, but you forget that he infected the whole school for you."

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Clerk--"May I have Tuesday off?"

Boss--"And why, if I may ask?"

Clerk--"It's my 25th wedding anniversary."

Boss--"What! Are we going to have to put up with this every 25 years?"

0000

IN CLOSING

It's been a lot of fun putting this issue together. Maybe it's because it contains so much about those who have been fortunate enough to get home. But aside from that, it just seems as if there has been more in the way of human-interest "stuff." Hope you like it.

Two more issues of the "Hopewell News," you know, and then it suspends publication, having fulfilled its purpose as a war-time service to those in the Armed Forces.

Best of luck,

HOPEWELL NEWS

-- Dean H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

Vol. III, No. 18

Hopewell, N.J., December 26, 1945

49th Issue

LEARNING JAPANESE CUSTOMS

Japanese customs are being learned by several Hopewell fellows, who are now stationed there. Eating with chopsticks comes easy, according to Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless (Infantry) who recently had an opportunity to dine with a Japanese family.

Among those in Japan are Captain Robert M. Moyer, Combat Engineer with a Tank Company, who is at Kure, Honshu, and writes "I'll be home soon," Cpl. Bruce E. Vansant, whose Engineers' Supply Company recently moved to Japan from Manila in the Philippines; Cpl. Zigmund Bealkowski, of the Airborne Infantry, who was among those who parachuted to earth for the re-capture of Corregidor and now has been shifted to Japan from the Philippines. Several others--both Army and Navy, who were in Japan, have returned or are enroute home.

Here's Tom McCandless' description of his meal with a Japanese family:

"We were invited to a Jap's home and took him up on it to see what it was like. This guy owns a machine shop and is pretty well off, I guess. We were entertained in the best Jap custom. We met his wife and kids and then took off our shoes and went into his living room. There was a guy there from Tokyo who spoke pretty good English and had been in the States in 1921. Unlike most Jap homes, they had chairs to sit in. Usually, they sit on pillows around a table about a foot high.

"They brought us all kinds of food. Some was good and some just so-so. There must have been half a dozen different kinds of sea food. I ate crab, squid, and about three kinds of fish; one was sardines! (One other time, I ate octopus but didn't like it.) They also had a pudding made out of rice but nothing like what we make. We had several kinds of fruit and vegetables--most of them strange. They had tangerines, just like ours. By the way--we ate all this with chopsticks which isn't so hard as you might imagine after about five minutes' practice.

"To drink, we had sake which is rice wine and is served hot. They drink it from small china cups and serve it from 'vases.' We also had green tea. They gave us flags and a cigartotto case."

HARRY COX IS MISSED

It seems strange these days to walk into the Cox & Gray barber-shop and fail to see Harry Cox there on the job. But death comes swiftly some times and Harry L. Cox was taken away on Dec. 14th before most of his friends were aware that he was ill. Apparently he was unaware of the seriousness of his condition but an abdominal growth had developed. He worked up to within a few days of his death, but when a doctor was called, an operation was advised. The operation was undertaken on Dec. 13th but his heart kicked up, and death followed early the next morning.

Harry Cox felt especially close to the fellows in military service, for he had seen most of them grow up from the time when they came in for their first haircut and squirmed through fear that they would not live through the ordeal. By actual count, more than 100 of the shop's customers were in the armed forces during the war. But Harry Cox's anxiety about them was not on a dollars-and-cents basis; to him, they were always "our boys." When word came of the death of the first Hopewell boy, Pfc. Irvin D. Van Nest, Jr., who was killed in North Africa in February, 1943, Harry Cox was one of the first to be informed about it, and was deeply affected.

It's also been difficult for the "Hot Stove Card Club" members to adjust themselves to Cox's absence from the shop. His participation in the joking while the game was in progress in the back room was a natural part of the relaxation. But change is an inevitable part of life. Cox's son, Raymond, is now in the shop and plans to carry on in his father's place. The experience he had acquired previously has come in handy. Recently, he had been employed at the General Motors plant in Trenton.

JIM HALL BATTLES SNOWDRIFTS

Pfc. James H. Hall came home from Camp Polk, La. for a Christmas furlough, only to find that Jose Carbaliel, taxi operator, was eager for help because of the rush of business, complicated by snowdrifts in roads and lanes. Jim, who had been in General Patton's Third Army in Germany, figured that snowdrifts were tame by comparison. Passengers reached their destinations, with driving a la Hall!

SO THIS IS PARIS!

If Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) is asked about his most embarrassing experience while in the Army, he will pop out with this answer most likely: "When I arrived in Paris in my stocking feet!"

It happened quite recently. He had been on furlough and visited the French Riviera, including Monte Carlo. But it wasn't Monte Carlo and its gaming tables that put him in his stocking-feet. He was heading back to Paris by train, it seems, and his "dogs" were hurting. So Norman eased his feet out of his shoes. It felt so good that he fell asleep. When he awakened, he reached for his shoes--but the shoes were not there. A search proved futile. They had been stolen.

So when the train pulled into Paris, Norman got off and walked in his stocking feet through the station! "I drew another pair there with very little trouble," he reports, "and continued on my way. It now seems very humorous but at the time it was anything but funny."

MANY DECORATIONS FOR MALESKY

The recent return to the States of Lieut. Edward S. Malesky, who taught in the Elementary School up to 1942, has revealed his numerous decorations earned while with the First and Ninth Armies as a member of the famed 1115th Combat Engineer Group.

The nature of his work is told in part through listing the Army schools he attended. They included Mine and Booby-Trap School, the Bailey Bridge School at Oxford, England; Mine Disposal School, as well as Athletic Staff and Information and Education schools. Lieut. Malesky was in North Africa but shifted to England time to hit France on D-Day. His outfit moved through France, Belgium, Holland and Germany and met the Russians at the Elbe River.

Malesky sustained a leg injury and also has one finger that is deformed because of his war service. In five campaigns, Malesky received a Silver Star and Bronze Star for outstanding service, as well as the French Croix-de-Guerre; and the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, as well as several citations. He is now on terminal leave and plans to study engineering further in college, living at Allentown, Pa.

AIR FORCE CHAPLAIN RETURNS

Captain John H. Ginter resumes his duties as pastor of the Presbyterian Church on January 1. He has served as a chaplain in the Army Air Force since June, 1943, after taking a course in the chaplains' school at Cambridge, Mass. His efforts to obtain overseas duty were futile, but he held assignments at Buckley Field, Col.; Seattle, Wash., and in recent months at Perrin Field, near Darnison, Texas. During his absence, the pulpit supply has been Dr. Edward Jurji, of the Princeton Seminary faculty.

Captain Ginter reached Mitchel Field, L.I. from Texas on Dec. 17th. He was in Hopewell briefly the following night to attend the annual Masonic Lodge banquet, and then went to Columbia, Pa. to stay with relatives before reopening the home here. Mrs. Ginter and son, Donald, also had been in Texas since early Fall. Another son, Jack, went into the Navy in September and has been in Chicago at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He has been expecting a new assignment, possibly aboard ship for Pacific duty.

SUCCESSFUL DEER HUNT

Undismayed by last year's experience while deer-hunting, Tracy Hall teamed up a few days ago with Joseph Baldwin, Jr. for a trip into Pennsylvania--and each came back with a deer. In fact, they stopped on the way home to scurry around for rabbits and each got two of them. But even then, Tracy Hall found that a fellow doesn't get full credit for such an achievement. Making sure that Tracy was within hearing distance, Spencer W. Moore, grocery store proprietor, remarked: "Somebody was saying that there's something wrong with the deer this year; they seem to be gay or something--they stand around and most anybody could shoot one of them, they say."

Last year, Tracy had the misfortune of being in the path of gunshot fired by another hunter and Tracy wound up in the hospital.

Alois Major, of Hart Avenue, also has been having deer meat, shooting a deer a few days ago.

STATION CLOSED ON SUNDAYS

As an economy measure, the Reading Railroad company now closes up the Hopewell station all day Sunday. Passengers cool their heels outside while waiting for trains and then pay their fares on the train, if they lack tickets. Borough Council is looking into the matter in the hope that the railroad officials will relent, but residents are not very hopeful about it. Russell W. Holcombe, School Board clerk, recently urged Council to go into action, fearing the effect upon the Borough as a community. While travel is somewhat curtailed in winter, many week-end visitors use the rail service during the summer months.

LEGION NAMES OFFICERS

(3)

Walter Peterson has been elected as commander of the Hopewell Valley Post, of the American Legion. The Post got under way recently, drawing a number who formerly were in the Duffield Post at Skillman. Other officers are: Claude Dilts, vice commander; Ralph Moratta, junior vice commander; Jesse Sproat, finance officer; Vincent P. Savidge, historian; C. Lloyd Drake, chaplain, and Oliver Jenkins, sergeant-at-arms.

WIFE ARRIVES FROM INDIA

Mrs. Barbara Drake Hart, wife of former S/Sgt. Alan F. Hart, reached Hopewell on Dec. 6th, coming from India where they were married last August. They are making their home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hart, on Lanning Avenue. Alan returned in November but the Army was unable to arrange for his wife to travel on the same ship. As a result, she came back across the Pacific and the States, while he crossed the Atlantic. Mrs. Hart's former home was in Brockton, Mass., and she served overseas with the American Red Cross in India. Alan has resumed his State job.

NEW MAYOR TO BEGIN TERM

In a few days now, Hopewell's Mayor will be Clarence A. Runyon. He succeeds Russell K. Metz. Runyon's service as a member of Council will be of value to him in his new office. He was chosen without opposition in November. George Clark and William H. Drake were elected to Borough Council at the same time.

EARNED ATOMIC BOMB PROJECT AWARD

A special pin designed to reward those who aided in some manner with the development of the atomic bomb has been earned by Mrs. Marion Laning Zirkler. She is the daughter of Mrs. Lou Etta Laning, of Lafayette Street, and the wife of former Cpl. Earl Zirkler, who was wounded in Sicily. Mrs. Zirkler had been employed in the office at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md. and like many others, knew that the hospital was working on the "Burford Project," but were kept in the dark about the real nature of the undertaking. The Zirklers have purchased a home at Yardley, Pa. but like many others these days who plan to move, must wait until the present occupants vacate.

70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (1)

When a couple has been married for 70 years, even the authorities grow confused as to what it should be called. The 50th is a golden anniversary, of course, and some authorities say the 60 is the diamond anniversary, while others speak of the 75th as the diamond anniversary. But regardless of what it is called, it was a most unusual event on Dec. 1 when Mr. and Mrs. John S. VanDyke observed their 70th wedding anniversary. They have lived for the past 63 years in their present home on the VanDyke Road west of the Borough. Mrs. VanDyke is the only living charter member of Calvary Baptist Church, and the church sent an anniversary cake to mark the occasion.

HISTORIC SPOT TO BE USED FOR SHOWROOM-GARAGE

With the old Finney & Fetter saw-mill removed and a garage and filling station to be erected in its place on Louillon Street, the site of two or three of Hopewell's "firsts" will be drastically changed in appearance. Ralph Moratta will conduct the new business there, which will include an automobile show room when building materials are available. For the present, a temporary garage and filling station will be erected.

Hopewell's original water system was supplied from a large well on the Finney & Fetter property. When the Borough outgrew the water supply available at that point, the Borough developed a more extensive system. The first telephone in Hopewell is said to have been in the old sawmill, which was torn down last Summer. It was a one-way line between the mill and the railroad station. When cars arrived at the station, they could ring the mill and let the owners know that they were available for loading with timber, shipped from the mill to all parts of the world. When the phone was being used, it was necessary to put your face right inside a box-like affair, in order to be heard at the other end of the line. A. G. Fetter, one of the saw-mill partners, is credited with originating Hopewell's first street lighting system. It consisted of kerosene lamps that were cleaned daily. Eventually, utility company lines were extended into the Borough.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Draftee: (enters and stands watching Sergeant working on a report.)

"What do you want?" the Sergeant growled.

"Nothing," was the reply.

"Didya bring anything to carry it in?"

"Nope," said the Draftee, "I didn't think you had any left."

She: "Getting real cold, isn't it?"

He: (reflectively): "Winter draws on."

She: "Sir!"

Sgt. John ("Jack") W. Flagg had spent several months on Iwo Jima working with the 47th Fighter Squadron while "the heat" was turned on Japan, the P-51 "Mustangs" from their base being the first land-based fighters planes to reach Japan... Edward M. Hayes, Jr. was a Lieut. (j.g.) in the Navy and had an assignment in Washington, D.C.... Pvt. Russell W. Holcombe, Jr. who had been working at a discharge center in the South and earlier in Oregon after returning from Germany, was discharged at Fort Meade, Md.

John Albert Hurley, QMS/c, who was on IST duty in the Pacific, reached Hopewell on Dec. 8th... Fred W. Macneil, SK1/c was on Pacific duty with the U.S.S. Manila Bay. He is a former Boston fellow who came to the H.A. Smith Company plant to work and after going in the Navy, married a girl in Portland, Oregon... Pfc. Joseph Muredda (Infantry) had been in Bremen in recent months, serving with occupation forces.... Lt. Col. J. R. ("Reg") Pierson is now on terminal leave, after doing duty at the Fort Dix Hospital. He has resumed full-time medical practice in town.... William A. Stout, Sp. (A)1/c, who was kept out of Navy flying because of a punctured ear-drum resulting from a power dive, and in recent months had been in the welfare department of the U.S. Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., has already resumed studies at State Teachers' College.

Robert A. VanDoren, Pfc. in a Signal Const. Battalion, is back from Tientsin, China, an area that was under Russian supervision when he was there.... Lieut. Arthur M. Wright, son-in-law of Hervey Hill, was due in from the Marians where he had been as a Lt. (j.g.) in the Navy.... George C. Koepfel, 3rd, S1/c, was among those caught in the pre-Christmas traffic jam in California, following his return from Pacific duty.... Herbert E. Wilson, Rdn 3/c on the U.S.S. Brook, is reported on his way in from the Pacific, but coming via the Panama Canal, the route that he took on his way out, and necessarily delaying his arrival home.... Pfc. Orville Carkhuff, Jr. (Field Artillery) has been due home, coming back from Japan.

Cpl. Graham Leigh Benson and Cpl. Julius Yuhus, both in the Marine Corps, reached Hopewell on Dec. 14th after serving with a Marine Air Wing in the Philippines. (see item elsewhere in this issue).

IT'S THOUGH TO BE A CIVILIAN

Now that he's a civilian again, Lieut. John E. McCracken, who served in the Navy, is finding out how serious is the housing shortage. McCracken, incidentally, is the son-in-law of Fred Jackson. The McCrackens had hoped to find an apartment in New York. Failing in that, they have been staying in a hotel--but not the same hotel--for with the housing shortage, the hotels frown upon permanent guests. So the McCrackens, it is reported, have been compelled to shift from one place to another.

DECIDE TO RE-ENLIST

T/5 William J. Ashton decided recently to re-enlist in the Army, and consequently has been home on an extended furlough. After the holidays, he reports back and then will learn what is next in store for him. Bill originally took studios at V.M.I., Lexington, Va; then had Infantry training at Camp Wheeler, Ga. and Fort Robinson, Neb., after which he aided in training Army dogs with an Infantry Scout Dog Platoon at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

T/4 Hoson Hopkins, who was with the First Army in Belgium and Germany as a member of a tank-destroyer outfit, is home, but after 90 days, plans to start another "hitch" in the Army.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr. (Marine Corps) who was home on furlough, has reported back to Brainbridge, Md. to finish out his four-year enlistment. He was in the Saipan and Iwo Jima campaigns and received the Purple Heart because of a stab wound near the elbow, sustained in the Saipan campaign in June, 1944.... Ernest Gaskoll who is an F2/c in the Navy, is now assigned to the U.S.S. Alabama with the Pacific Fleet.... Sgt. Leonard Vandewater had to return to Camp Campbell, Kentucky, three days before Christmas after spending several days at home. He had been at Camp Campbell, following his furlough that came after his return from service in France and Germany with the Infantry. He earned a Purple Heart in action.... Fred A. Larmon S2/c, sent word that he was on the Pacific Coast again but would go out on another trip before having a chance to get home.... Lt. (j.g.) T. ("Tod") A. Pierson, 3rd, has been home on leave.... Pfc. Nicholas Guiseppe is hospitalized at Camp Sholtz, Miss., but anticipates being discharged soon. He was awarded a Purple Heart some time ago.... Stanley Bealkowski, S1/c, continues in Chicago where he is studying in the Navy radio school. His brother, Sgt. William Bealkowski, is back from India where he spent about 18 months with a heavy bombardment group of the Air Force.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- to
- Stanley Bealkowski--Jan. 12
- Angelo N. Castoro--Dec. 27
- Florence M. DeHart--Dec. 29
- William E. Johnson--Jan. 16
- Fred A. Larmon--Jan. 6
- Theodore Sinclair--Jan. 1
- Robert A. VanDoren--Jan. 6

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE (continued)

Joseph Hill, 2nd, has finished "boot" training at Bainbridge, Md. and is around town for a 10-day leave.....Pvt. George W. Brain, (Infantry) who lived on Columbia Avenue, is now in Germany although at the time of sailing was believed to be enroute to Italy. He wrote from Rospenheim, Germany on Nov. 24th but said he expected to be on the move. His ship had docked at LeHavre, France. His wife and two children are now living at Lawrenceville.....Lester F. Nevins, S1/c, has moved out from Alameda, Calif. and expects to be gone until the Summer of 1946.....Lt. (j.g.) Chas. T. Wyckoff, is far out on the Pacific, being attached to the IST. 1134...T/4 V. Varoy Skillman is continuing as Vocational and Educational Counselor at the Army Convalescent Hospital, Camp Edwards, Mass., and hopes he may be discharged in the Spring.

BACK TO TEACHING--ARMY STYLE

Cpl. Paul Stryker, who was diverted back in 1943 from his teaching job at the Elementary School, is now teaching in the 88th Division School at Lido Study Center, in the Province of Venezia, Italy. His classes are in mathematics and history. About 500 soldiers are enrolled in the school, with grades from the fifth year in grammar school to high school subjects. Paul is happy to be back "in the groove." Meanwhile, he lives in a hotel and sleeps on a comfortable bed, but his return to the States may be delayed until late Spring or Summer. He recently had an opportunity to visit France and Switzerland.

THEY FINALLY MET

Cpl. Graham L. Bonson and Cpl. Julius Yuhas had been informed while both were on duty in the Philippines that "another fellow from Hopowell" was somewhere in that area. But Graham was in the First Marine Air Wing and Yuhas in the Second, so they never met. But a day came when orders started them on their way back aboard the same ship. When they reached California, a "K.P." detail was being named and when Graham's name was called, the fellow standing next to him revealed himself as Yuhas. When transportation across the States was obtained, they travelled most of the way to ether....Yuhas thought he was getting home last Fall and came from the Pacific to the Carolinas, only to be sent out again to Mindanao where he worked 10 days or so before being re-shipped homeward.....Graham had been overseas 13 months, going to Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Loyto, Owi (off the coast of New Guinea) and Mindanao in the Philippines. All his travelling after he reached Guadalcanal was by plane, up to the time that he started homeward. When he arrived at San Diego, Calif., he landed on the same pier from which he had departed...And reaching home, he was served a special chicken dinner, but by 9.30 he was ready for another chicken sandwich, explaining: "I dreamed about this many a time while I was away."

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

They've changed the name of Hopowell's major industry to Rockwell Machine Company--but it looks as if it will still be "H.A.'s" to most folks around town when they have occasion to refer to the former H.A. Smith Machine Company plant...Employees enjoyed a Christmas party in the Elementary School auditorium on the Friday before Christmas, and their decorating simplified that problem for the pupils preparing for their festivities....The Vernon Temples (he returned recently from the Pacific) are now living in Andy Wyckoff's property beyond the Leon Hill place east of town. Vernon and his wife had been living near Somerville. He is re-employed at "H.A.'s".....A few cases of scarlet fever in town, patients including Mrs. Samuel K. Hunt, and two children at the Mrs. Estelle Smith boarding home. But the "flu" has really been going much stronger, innumerable persons being "laid up" for a few days.. Donald Allen and Ernest Getthilf, expert turkey growers, won first prize in a New York show in a competitive demonstration of preparing turkeys for the market.

The fire siren sounded on the day before Christmas, to get out a few men to help trim the tree on the Borough Hall lawn...The Archer Stewarts, of West Broad Street, are again occupying their home here, after being in Florida and North Jersey. He formerly held a government position in Panama....Those who died recently included Mrs. Elmer Ewing, whose husband was formerly Borough Tax Collector; Mrs. Emma Kintner, mother of Mrs. Orville Garkhuff and William A. Garkhuff; Miss Linda Castagnola, who was 29 years old, and Mrs. George M. Green, wife of George Green, of West Broad St.. ..Miss Lois Belman has re-entered St. Francis Hospital as a Cadet Nurse.

IN CLOSING

You may be wondering whether this is the final issue of the "Hopowell News." No--one more to come. With the next and closing edition on January 15th, the "News" will have rounded out three full years of publication, maintaining a schedule of "every third Tuesday" with few exceptions, throughout the entire time.

And as for the proposed book in which some of the material will be re-printed, plus much that is new and re-arranged, further word will come concerning that in the January 15th issue. But don't be expecting to see that in the immediate future.

Time to close out this issue--so here's wishing you the best of luck in the New Year and far beyond.

Sincerely,

Dean H. Ashton, Editor

Hopewell News

-- Doan H. Ashton, Editor and Publisher --

VOL. IV, No. 1

Hopewell, N.J., January 15, 1946

50th (Final) Issue

LIVELY SCHOOL DISCUSSION

A lively discussion of possible improvements in the program offered by the Hopewell Elementary School took place at the Parent-Teach Association meeting last week. The "town-meeting" atmosphere prevailed. Numerous ways to provide a better rounded education were suggested.

The forum centered on the topic, "Could Hopewell propose and carry through a three-year program that would bring our school above the average good school in America?" Earl B. Whitcraft, school principal, acted as moderator and the initial speakers were Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Jr. and Mr. Don Guinness. Mrs. Baldwin favored an improved method of advising pupils about the curricula offered when they enter High School; an improved playground and sports program, as well as some instruction in music, drawing, domestic art and manual training. Guinness contended that a school must offer more than the "three R's" and a community that does not do the utmost in providing educational advantages is out of step with the present age.

Mr. Whitcraft cited that Hopewell pupils need an enriched program so they can compete on an equal footing with others with whom they associate later. He declared that boys and girls here measure up with those in other communities but opportunities to develop as fully are not available. Taxpayers do not need to be overburdened to provide an improved program, he added.

Russell W. Holcombe, Sr., Clerk to the School Board, cautioned that increases in the school budget create the danger that the budget may be rejected and a "real headache" develop. He pointed out that the Board at various times has considered the points suggested in an expanded program. Mr. Whitcraft said that was a surprise to him, as he had not heard them discussed during his year in Hopewell. Max Laird, School Board member, cautioned that an Elementary School should not be expected to provide the features offered in a High School.

The forum is expected to result in renewed discussion generally relative to news areas for educating Hopewell's boys and girls.

FIFE-AND-DRUM CORPS ORGANIZING

More than 50 candidates for the fife-and-drum corps, being organized by Hopewell's American Legion Post, are waiting for further word concerning plans. A count of would-be fife players, as well as drummers, was made recently in the Elementary School. Edwin W. Savidge is in charge of the project. Several years have elapsed since Hopewell had a band sponsored by the community. The Hopewell Boys' Band made a name for itself a few years back and played at many harvest homes, as well as in various parades.

The Legion Post, known as Hopewell Valley #339, is installing Walter Peterson as Post Commander at a buffet supper and installation meeting to be held on January 21 at Brookside Inn. The Post now has over 50 members.

CARKHUFF RETURNS FROM JAPAN

Pfc. Orville Carkhuff, Mr. (Field Artillery) is home from Japan, but has re-enlisted for another year of Army service. He was among those delayed on the West Coast by lack of rail transportation. As a result, he lived aboard ship for about two additional weeks. He brought with him a Japanese samurai sword, the one he obtained when three Japs tried to steal furnishings from a barracks while "Junior" was on guard duty. That was at the Suzuka Naval Arsenal. Firing five shots in the air, Carkhuff sent them flying and then discovered that the samurai (suicide) sword had been left. Before moving into Japan, Carkhuff's outfit had been on the island of Saipan, important air base used in the air offensive against Japan. Carkhuff left Hopewell last June and first went to Oahu, in the Philippines. He will be at home on furlough for about a month, and then report for reassignment.

METHODIST PASTOR TO WED

Rev. Edward B. Cheney, Methodist minister, is being married this Saturday to Miss Martha Burgess in the Methodist Church at Penns Grove. He came to Hopewell last Fall and is continuing his studies at Drew University.

POPULAR LUNCHROOM AT SCHOOL

Salesmen whose business takes them to the Hopewell Elementary School, have developed a tendency to drop in near the noon hour. It is suspected that the menus offered in the school cafeteria have something to do with it. The principal, Earl B. Whitcraft, has indicated that he may have to discourage the practice. On the other hand, he has urged townspeople to drop in--once--for luncheon in order to inspect the cafeteria and try out the food offered--at prevailing prices.

TRAVELS IN INTERIOR CHINA

Sgt. Paul S. Cutter (Signal Service) has seen quite a bit of interior China after taking special training in writing and interpreting cipher and other secret codes. He took a four months' course along that line in Kunming, China, and then went over treacherous roads into the "back country" to participate in the China offensive. He has been awarded a Bronze Service Star for his part in this campaign.

Since VJ-Day, Cutter has been stationed in Shanghai, attached to the China Replacement Service, aiding with the records of soldiers being prepared for shipment home. He hopes to be moving in the same direction shortly. He left the States 15 months ago, going to India by plane, by way of Bermuda, Azores, Casablanca, Tripoli, Cairo to Abadan, Iran, and to Karachi, India. The trip took five days. When he arrived at Calcutta, he worked as a switchboard operator for two months; then by rail and a plane "over the hump" into Kunming, China.

DISCOURAGED ABOUT WRITING

G. Marvin Conover, whose farm borders on the Lindbergh Road north east of town, never did like to do much letter-writing. And in view of what happened when he wrote a letter to his son, Pfc. John Garrett Conover, while the latter was serving with the Infantry in Germany, it's quite likely that even less will be done in the way of letter-writing. Of course, Garrett, Jr. is back in the States now but it just goes to show--well, here's what happened.

Marvin, in a moment of weakness, sat down on a Sunday afternoon last March and wrote several pages. It was duly mailed to Garrett and later it was learned that it reached him on April 7th. The very next day, Pfc. Conover was wounded. His injuries involved wounds of the head, neck, right arm and hip, and caused him to be hospitalized for a month. Maybe the letter had nothing whatever to do with it, but something of vaster importance, for the prediction made that the writing of the letter was enough to end the war in Europe really came true about a month later.

FOR THAT HUNGRY FEELING

Pancakes and sausage! They'll be serving them hot from the griddle: the frying-pan at Calvary Baptist Church next Monday night. And the men of the church--including a number of ex-servicemen who are willing to overlook memories of KP duty--will be doing the cooking and serving! Plans are being made so there will be a minimum of waiting, and the pancakes will be served as long as a patron feels hungry. The committee in charge is headed by Leon Hill.

Another innovation starting tomorrow, January 16th, is a hot luncheon for working men and women, served between 11 A. M. and 2 P.M. A varied menu is offered with prompt service. Miss Allona Arnold is in charge. Similar luncheons are planned at two-week intervals.

ENGAGEMENTS

The engagement of Miss Kathleen ("Kitty") Carkhuff, Cadet Nurse at Temple University Hospital, to Colin A. McBurnoy, who recently returned from the far Pacific, has been announced. He served as a Sergeant in a B-29 crew and received the Air Medal after numerous flights during the war on Japan.

From Pemington comes an announcement that Miss Josephine Hoyt, of that place, is engaged to Herbert VanDyke, of Hopewell. He returned last May from Italy where he was with a Military Police Company. Before entering the service, he held a job as a golf pro in Florida.

It also has been announced that Miss Beryl Agin, of Model Avenue, is engaged to Clement E. Baldwin, of Rocky Hill. She is employed in the County Clerk's office at Mercer Court House.

SOME TRAPPER

During the Christmas holidays, eight-year-old Joseph Baldwin, of Burton Avenue, went to visit his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Sr., of Dublin Rd., near Pemington. He set five traps, hoping he'd have some luck. Sure enough, he caught a muskrat and when he sold the hide, received the sum of \$1.90 for it. Eight years old--that's what you call getting an early start.

PACIFIC AREA WELL REPRESENTED
IN GROUP OF NEWLY-RETURNED

For the first time since VJ-Day, the list of servicemen newly returned to Hopewell shows a majority from the Pacific and India-China-Japan theaters. About a dozen have returned in the past three weeks. Let's take a look at those who have put in an appearance in recent days, after receiving their honorable discharges.

Bruno Bealkowski, F2/c, who belongs to the noted "eight-boys-in-service" family, had been on Pacific duty on the U.S.S. Boarss, a destroyer that was in the task force that went to Japan's front-door to bombard the coast shortly before the surrender. He was assigned to gun fire control.

Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Infantry) arrived in New York from Germany and France on Jan. 5th. He called his home from Camp Kilmer at 4.30 A.M. and went to Irvington, where his wife and two children were staying, the same afternoon. He was in a Finance Disbursement office in France in recent months but previously, in the seizure of a town in Germany, had been wounded by a sniper.

Coxswain John F. Corcoran has wired his arrival at Portland, Oregon, with the expectation of being discharged at Lido Beach, N.Y. within a few days. In September, he was at Okinawa, although in May he had been back from Pacific duty and spent leave at home.

T/5 Nickolas ("Doc") J. Guiseppa, another who sustained shrapnel wounds, had Christmas turkey at home. He had served with a Medical Detachment in England, France, Belgium, Germany and Holland.

T/4 Lawrence B. Hurley, who also served in a Medical Battalion, returned from Germany and France, and had prior service in England. Although he was thousands of miles distant from his brother, S/Sgt. C. "Reg" Hurley, throughout the war ("Reg" was with the Coast Artillery in the Hawaiian and Mariana Islands), Lawrence got to within four weeks of "Reg's" arrival.

Cpl. Wilbur U. Hurley (Army Air Fighter Squadron) came home from Mengtaz in China. He was an aircraft armorer, working on Medium bombers with the "Flying Tigers" squadron of the 14th Air Force.

George Kenneth Hullfish, MMS/c, was continuously at Pearl Harbor for over 20 months. He was in the Ship Repair Service and went to Pearl Harbor direct from "boot" training in Chicago. He arrived home on Dec. 31st.

Cpl. John ("Jack") Van Lieu had been out of the States since August, 1944, meanwhile being in India, Burma and China. He was with Headquarters of the First Combat Cargo Group, and figured in the Central Burma (Mandalay) campaign; and earned two additional battle stars for work while in China. Enroute home, he had a wait of two months in Shanghai, China, for shipping. The trip across the Pacific took 19 days, and he reached the East about a week later. He is living at Lawrenceville at present and hopes to re-locate in Hopewell. He looks fine--even the trim mustache, which has been added.

Hartwell P. Vannoy (Anti-Tank Company) returned to town on New Year's Day. He went overseas in the early Summer of 1944 and served in France and Germany.

Cpl. Thomas Waldron returned from Italy, where he served in a Quartermaster Company.

Herbert E. Wilson, Rdm3/c, went to the far Pacific last Spring aboard an APD, and his ship figured in the rescue of a flier from a life-raft; was attacked by a Jap "suicide plane" in the vicinity of Okinawa, but fortunately the plane was shot down, and later the ship sailed into Tokyo-Bay.

Capt. John H. Winant, son-in-law of Edward M. Hayes, of the State Village staff, is on terminal leave after over five years in the Army. He figured in the Palau Islands invasion, and later Division Transport Quartermaster for combat loading in amphibious operations.

T/5 Harry ("Hap") Errickson (Field Artillery) has been expected, coming home from Germany. He served in England, Belgium and Germany with an Armored Division.

RECEPTION FOR RETURNED CHAPLAIN

Captain John H. Ginter, Army Air Force chaplain who recently returned from Texas to his Presbyterian parsonate here, will be honored at a covered dish supper and reception Friday night. He served in Colorado and the State of Washington before going to Perrin Field, Texas. The reception will include a tribute to Dr. Edward Jurji, of Princeton Seminary, who served as pulpit supply during Mr. Ginter's absence.

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v	Honorably Discharged
v	
v	Bruno Bealkowski
v	John Garrett Conover
v	John F. Corcoran
v	Nicholas Guiseppa
v	Lawrence B. Hurley
v	Wilbur U. Hurley
v	Geo. Kenneth Hullfish
v	John ("Jack") F. Van Lieu
v	Hartwell P. Vannoy
v	Thomas Waldron
v	Herbert E. Wilson
v	John H. Winant
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v	Expected
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v	Harry J. Errickson
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STATE VILLAGE OFFICIALS WED

Edward M. Haynes, Steward at the Skillman Village, and Mrs. Jessie Wood, Head Nurse at the same institution, were married on January 1 at the Haynes' residence. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Johnston, son-in-law of the late Elmer Chick, formerly connected with the Old School Baptist Church here.

SERVICE MEN'S PRAYER

For many months, the "Prayer for Those In Service" occupied a special place in the Sunday morning worship service of Calvary Baptist Church. It was a moving moment--especially when the outcome of the war and the return of those in the armed forces was in doubt. The prayer for servicemen is being made a part of the regular morning prayer. The final special prayer was given by the congregation on Dec. 30th, having been written by the Pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray. It follows:

"O God of eternity, Thou hast touched our day with the blessings of peace. We thank Thee that Thou didst sustain the men and women of our nation who fought and suffered that victory might be for us. Let them rejoice with Thee in the extensive possibilities of a cooperative and beneficent brotherhood of nations. May they see that their task was not only to tear down the walls of the old world, but is now to help build the new. Strengthen them to this end, we pray, in the spirit of Christ. Amen."

WHERE'S ISABELLE?

Names are easy to forget, and that brought about quite some complications the other day for a sister of Rev. N. Vance Johnston, of Vineland, former Hopowell pastor. His sister, being in the vicinity of Hopowell, decided to visit "Isabelle," whom she had met in the Calvary Baptist parsonage here. Suddenly, she realized that she could not remember Isabelle's last name. Stopping in town, she asked a lad on a corner his last name. He said "Wyckoff." It clicked! So she offered to take him in her car, so he could show her where he lived. The boy gave instructions and they went out Hart Avenue and to a house where she was ushered into the parlor. When Mrs. Wyckoff appeared, it was apparent that there was some mistake. Yet the woman was Mrs. Isabelle Wyckoff! However, she directed her guest to the home of Mrs. Isabelle Wyckoff on Columbia Avenue--the one who had been sought from the outset!

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Frank I. Maple, S2/c, is on Okinawa, being there when the typhoon hit last October. He came through it unharmed although buildings were blown down all around him. He is serving as a cook and baker with the Seabees. He flew to Japan recently in a B-29 for a short stay..... Cpl. Edward J. Tucker is now out of the hospital after receiving treatment in Manila for foot trouble. He formerly was in Europe, and has been overseas 21 months. He is a tank driver.

Jack S. Ginter, A/S, is now doing mess hall duty at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, being passed by in a recent sea draft. He expects to remain "as is" until March. He went into the service last Labor Day.... Captain David L. Powell, brother of Mrs. Wm. Sangston, recently advanced to that rank. The last two years of his five years in the Army were spent in England with an Ordnance Ammunition Company (Aviation)..... Robert E. Lowe, S2/c, was home on leave from the U.S.S. Midway, giant aircraft carrier and returned to duty on Jan. 10th.

Cpl. Paul C. Stryker, former Hopowell teacher, hopes to get back home this Spring, on the strength of his two-and-a-half years' service rather than his 45 points. He is now teaching in the Lido Study Center at Vonico, Italy. He conducts three classes daily in mathematics and says "it is by far the best" assignment he has had while in the Army. His outfit moved last Summer from Lake Garda to Romo, where he was approximately six miles from the center of the city. He spent two afternoons at the trial of General Dostlor, who was convicted and executed. A week's furlough was spent in Switzerland, going by air to Milan and the rest of the way by rail. Then Paul was transferred to the 88th Division as part of the Occupation Force.

Pvt. George Brain, of Columbia Avenue, is now at Garmisch, Germany, with the Service Company, 66th Infantry. He is doing painting and carpentry work. His outfit lives in a hotel where a German orchestra plays during mealtime, with German "frauleins" giving kitchen and maid service. However, George says he has seen enough of Europe, going into the Army last May and overseas in the early Fall.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Johnny--"Say, Dad, what does it mean when the paper says a man went to a convention as a delegate-at-large?"

Dad--"It means his wife didn't go with him."

CHURCH DOINGS

The congregation of Calvary Baptist Church gave a purse of money to Rev. and Mrs. Raymond A. Gray as a Christmas gift....Young people of the church have been having some good times, including a waffle supper and New Year's Resolutions observance, with other special events coming along....The ceiling in the church kitchen gave way recently (no connection with the young people's activities!)....Members of the choir gave a "Welcome Back" surprise to the church organist, Dean H. Ashton, who had been on leave since early in September. During that time, Mrs. Albert Van Zandt was at the console.....Funds for the new heating plant are rolling in, with "one-cent-a-meal-per-family" banks aiding the cause. More than \$550. is now in hand and it is planned to install an oil-burner and radiation before next Fall.

With Calvary Baptist Church now in its 75th Anniversary year, it is planned to hold a Christian Life Crusade Institute as the opening event of the observance. A series of four Sunday evening discussion-group programs will begin on Feb. 3rd, and special features are planned....A new order of worship at the Sunday morning services has been well received....A thoughtful person sent a box of chocolates to the choir, in appreciation of "faithful attendance and inspiring singing."

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Dr. Amos Stults, veterinarian, has a new Ford car and continues to move about rather lively....Garrott Breese, Water Department superintendent and Borough Assessor, received a pay raise from \$1,500 to \$2,000 from Borough Council....In the Elementary School, 183 families are represented with one or more children....Mrs. Joseph Baldwin, Jr. is opening a nursery school on Jan. 21 at her home, 9 Burton Avenue....Ralph Marotta's garage business on Louellon Street begins to look like the real thing, with a building moved there to serve temporarily as his place of business, and numerous cars, plus a trailer, at the scene.

Parking restrictions on the hotel side of Seminary Avenue are being enforced. George E. Pierson was elected as president of the Hopewell National Bank when the Board of Directors met on Jan. 8th....Alan F. Hart, recently returned from India, has taken an apartment in Pennington....Alvah Voorhees is suing the Reading Company for \$5,760, claiming that employeoes caused damage to saplings, fences, crops and grass in the early Summer of 1944.

Spencer Moore is having his grocery-meat store enlarged, an addition being built to the rear. It is being built above the brook which runs through the property. When completed, it will provide storage space, permitting further enlargement of the store itself, and the shifting of the meat department further back....George C. Wyckoff, blacksmith, recently exhibited some of his show bantams in the Boston Poultry Show, and personally attended the event.

ON THE POETIC SIDE

Here's a poem entitled "Atomic Power," by Louis Ginsberg:

In atom of man
Are snugly curled
Explosive forces
That wield the world.

Solar systems
Spin and float
Abbreviated
In this note.

Electrons, sped
By order, control
Harmonies
That pattern his soul.

Yet he is his danger:
Hate in him can
Disintegrate
This atom, man.

The gum-chewing girl
And the cud-chewing cow
Are somewhat alike,
Yet different somehow.
What difference?
Oh, yes. I see it now:
It's the thoughtful look
On the face of the cow.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Sugar Pie," he said, "Did that kiss Ah just gavo you make you long for another?"
"Sho did, Boy," she replied, "it sho did! But he's outa town."

NEW MATERIAL TO APPEAR IN BOOK

Progress is being made with the book to be published containing selected material from the "Hopewell News." Certain sections have been completed but the task of assembling additional information is time-consuming.

Many pages of new material will be included. A new and more attractive arrangement of many of the stories that were so well received is expected to add greatly to the book's general appeal. It is hoped that the volume will be ready for distribution during the Fall months.

Present plans call for a limited edition. Therefore, delivery to persons who do not place orders in advance cannot be guaranteed. Those who have not already indicated that they want to reserve a copy or copies should address a card to the author, Dean H. Ashton, 97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J. Money should not be sent until notified.

The book will be a chatty, human-interest story about Hopewell doings during the war years, 1943-45, and an authentic account concerning those from Hopewell who served in the armed forces.

"NEWS" CEASES PUBLICATION

With this issue, the "Hopewell News" ceases publication. It has fulfilled its purpose--that is, to carry news from home to those who entered military service, and to serve as an exchange point for information concerning those in uniform. The number still away from home has dwindled to a small fraction of the original total. Therefore, it is felt that the "Hopewell News" can properly "close up shop."

This final edition is the fiftieth in the series. It also rounds out exactly three full years of publication. The "Hopewell News" is believed to have been the first of its kind published in this area.

The "Hopewell News" has had a curious history. It just "grew up" while the Editor wasn't looking. He thought he would write a letter in February, 1943, to four or five fellows who recently had entered the service. (That was about the time that Japanese resistance at Guadalcanal had ended and the North African campaign was in progress). So carbon copies of "This-'n-That"--as the summary of town topics was first called--were produced. Hearing of its existence, others asked whether it could be mailed to their relatives in service. Town residents wanted it, too. Thus the list grew and grew until the "News" that began with a circulation of four or five copies eventually reached almost 500. Physically, the "News" also grew, averaging six pages but occasionally eight, with the equivalent of six to nine newspaper columns of news in each issue.

During the three years, over 270 pages (8½ by 14 inches) of news were provided. In wordage, that totals about 240,000 words, or the equivalent of three average-length books. And the materials used--well, if all the reams of paper were stacked atop of each other, it would make a pile at least 20 feet high!

And how was it financed? After the first few months, Hopewell residents virtually demanded an opportunity to share in the undertaking in some way. The contributions that came in were often accompanied by the remark, "You do the work and we'll pay the bill." Large donations were discouraged--in fact, many would-be contributors who tried to be "repeaters" were turned down. It was never intended to be a money-making proposition nor was it permitted to become such. The sums contributed from December, 1943, and thereafter, totaled approximately \$275 and were used exclusively to pay for materials and mailing. (Records open for inspection.)

Many persons gave assistance, in addition to those who were contributors of cash. Special mention of Mrs. Walter Bonson is richly deserved as she developed plans that made possible the expansion of the mailing list to include all Hopewell fellows who had not been reached previously, and worked unsparingly on other phases of the job. To all who assisted in various ways--and the cooperation and keen interest shown will remain as one of the happiest memories of the Editor--this word of sincere appreciation.

Dean H. Ashton
Editor, "Hopewell News."

97 West Broad Street
Hopewell, New Jersey

Hopewell, New Jersey

February 6, 1948

Letter #1

Hi-ya,

Probably you are asking yourself, "What might this be?" Well, it's a distant cousin to the "Hopewell News." That closed down with the January 15th issue. But I knew that a big bunch of Hopewell fellows were still in service, and they might want to get some home-town news, in one form or another. So this is it--more of a personal letter, I hope, even though it must be mimeographed in order to cover those on the mailing list. But by winding up the "Hopewell News," I have dropped the heavy mailing list of folks around town and nearby--nearly 400 of them--and lightened up the work that I have to do. I'll be anxious to know whether you want me to send you a letter such as this every once in a while. If you'll toll me a little about what's doing with you, I know the letters that follow from me will be more interesting because of a report about some of your experiences or surroundings. And by the way--to a squint at the address I used on your envelope. Is it correct? Possibly not, for the changes have been rapid in many instances.

Perhaps you've heard about the fire that threatened to level Calvary Baptist Church on January 19th, a Saturday night about 9.15 P.M. Apparently some of the wiring installed years ago went bad in the front corner of the church, nearest the parsonage. George Schomp was walking by and saw the blaze, about the same time that the pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, walked into the church basement and discovered flames beginning to come through into the basement Bible School room. They seized an extinguisher and tried to check it. Meantime, young Dick Kintner had seen the flames and ran to T.F. Laird's on Columbia Ave. to have them phone in an alarm. But the fire siren wouldn't work, so they banged on the iron rim to summon firemen. Dense smoke made fire-fighting difficult, and added to the damage to the walls of the church auditorium and basement. But the firemen took hose lines in the upstairs and downstairs entrances, and sent another stream of water through a side window. As a result, they held the blaze in that corner of the church, although the front heater room was ruined, a hole burned in the floor of the church auditorium and walls on the stairway, and front of the Bible School room badly charred. Also, firemen had to cut a hole in the west side of the church to make sure that the flames weren't going up toward the roof.

The loss was fully covered by insurance, but the fire will necessitate a general overhauling of the church because of the damage by flames and smoke. In fact, there is a proposal that a new entrance be constructed and the front of the church modernized. Already, a Committee has been appointed to study the possibilities and report within a month, so that the work of restoration can get under way. Previously, the congregation had decided to install a new heating and lighting system, so further improvements may be added. If so, this year, the 75th anniversary of the founding of the church, may be a long-remembered event.

Now--and this is too good to keep--let me tell you about the lighter side of the same story--although the fire was a pretty serious matter there for a little while. George Schomp, with other firemen, had a cup of coffee in the Baptist parsonage when the blaze was out. As he turned to leave about 10.30--an hour and a half, roughly, after the fire had been discovered, he revealed that he had been carrying a piece of ice cream in his pocket all the time--fire or no fire!

Again, there is the experience of George Voorhoos, assistant fire chief. He sat at home, unaware of the fire, until his neighbor, Vincent Denito, returning home, asked him "How come?" Voorhoos grabbed a coat and ran out, jumped into his car and away he went--still wearing his house slippers! A little later, he returned for his shoes, as the temperature was about 5 degrees above. And Horace Wyckoff--well, he got wet and his clothing froze nearly stiff. When he returned home, he was so thoroughly chilled that he stood by the stove at home to get warmed--only to discover a short time later that he had burned the seat out of his trousers, without knowing about it!

But the firemen did a swell job, and their thoughtfulness prevented any extensive damage in the church auditorium from water. The basement, necessarily, was flooded with two or three inches of water. And the telephone operators, likewise, working unobserved, helped to round up firemen and handle a flood of extra calls. Despite the fire damage, services were held in the church the following day, by re-arranging to some extent. With current available for the church organ by the following Sunday, the Sunday program was restored to normal by the end of that week.

SITE FOR UNITED NATIONS--Two possible sites near Hopewell for the permanent home of the United Nations Organization were inspected by a committee that came over from Europe recently. One location was described as "in the Hopewell Valley" and the other between Rocky Hill, Kingston and Millstone. But the delegation concluded that a site in Westchester County, N.Y. and extending over into Connecticut, was better suited to their purposes. An extensive area is needed, as most nations will erect suitable headquarters for their representatives; large auditoriums for meetings, hotel accommodations for visitors, etc., are all a part of the project. Wherever the U.N.O. locates, the most important thing is to make sure that permanent world peace is assured.

STEERS ON THE LOOSE--On a recent Saturday night, 28 steers were left in the corral adjoining the Reading station, but they broke out during the night and wandered as far as Herb Voorhees' farm in Stoutsburg. With some difficulty, they were taken back to the station. The following week, another shipment of steers was on hand, but this time a man was posted to watch.

RETURNED--A few more fellows have returned home, honorably discharged. T/5 Harry "Hap" Errickson (Field Artillery) is back from Germany; Cpl. Julius Yuhas, of the Marines, who came home from service with an Air Wing in the Philippines, reported back to Cherry Point, N.C., and was released; Nicholas S. Castoro, Sgt., who had been with a North Arctic Weather Squadron and then for the past year at Newark Air Base, N.J., is again a civilian; and Pfc. John Garrett Conover (Infantry) was discharged on Jan. 15th, and now is talking of driving to Florida for a visit there. Pfc. William Lanning, discharged on Jan. 13th, had been in Italy, France and Germany with an Evacuation Hospital.

OTHER VETERAN NEWS--Herbert B. Butcher, who came back from the Philippines after prior service in London with the Navy during the "blitz" days, was discharged on Jan. 25th and is back with the N.J. Civil Service Commission and living in Tronton..... Stephen Woolston, SAIS/o, has docked at Seattle on the U.S.S. Palawan and is due home with his discharge....W. Theodore Sinclair, of the U.S.S. Crosley, has arrived in California and is expected home....T/5 Steve Ruggieri, who was in Europe with an Engineers Battalion, is due back....Mail sent to Cpl. Emanuel Staton, who was with a Quartermaster Truck Company in Europe, is being returned, which is a good sign those days.

OTHERS HOME AGAIN---The list of those discharged should also include the following: Lt. Harold Temple, home from the Philippines and New Guinea with a record of 1,800 hours flying planes for the Troop Carrier Squadron with which he served for 19 months; J. Robert McLaughlin, S1/o, home from Pacific service aboard the aircraft carrier Bunker Hill; Harry B. Hunt, Jr., C/S on the S.S. Areturus, a supply ship that took him overseas at the time of the North Africa, Sicily and Italy invasions, and then to Okinawa for more of the same; Cpl. Kent F. Nickerson, of the Marines, who had been with Aircraft groups figuring in the Gilbert, Marshall and Mariana Islands engagements; John F. Corcoran, Coxswain, also returned from Pacific duty; George C. Koepfel, 3rd, S1/o, who was aboard ship for the Philippine invasion, after previously serving on runs across the Atlantic; and Lieut. Charles P. Hixson.

MORE ITEMS ABOUT THOSE IN SERVICE---Cpl. Graham Benson is "sweating out" the loss of his service record, being held at Cherry Point, N.C. meanwhile. It seems that he had a partial encounter with the same trouble when he reached California from the Philippines after service with a Marine Air Wing. Then it involved his health records; the mixup possibly due to the presence of another Benson in his Squadron. When the papers are located, he probably will get his discharge.....Pvt. Thomas W. Pancoast, of the AAF, who expected to go to Germany, has been diverted to Panama....Pfc. Orville Carkhuff (Field Artillery) goes to Fort Monmouth next week to begin his one-year enlistment, after a month's furlough following his return from Japan....Edwin F. Lowe, of the Merchant Marine, was home recently...Frank J. Tucker has reported to Fort Geo. J. Meade, Md., to do a three-year hitch in the Army....Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, soon to be released from the U.S. Marines, recently wed Miss Elizabeth H. Adams, of Skillman....Ernest Gaskell, F2/o, has been at Long Beach, Calif., but may be transferred from the U.S.S. Alabama, on which he had a one-day training run on the Pacific recently...Pfc. Clarence G. Laird is on Guam with an AAF Base unit.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN---There's a new doctor in town, Dr. D.R. Dilworth, a native of California, who has opened an office in the former John Riley radio shop on Seminary Avenue...Archibald Doy is driving a taxi for Jose Carballal....A Tronton Transit bus skidded on the Presbyterian Church hill due to icy streets this morning and managed to climb the sharp embankment in front of Louis Gerhart's home; twelve passengers suffered quite a jolt....At Calvary Baptist Church, a series of four Sunday night programs is being held as part of a national Christian Life Crusade; discussions, special music and refreshments make it a novel program....In the Postoffice, a line has been rigged up to display "lost and found" gloves....Rumor has it that Norman Blackwell has bought the Plump corner at Princeton Ave. and will remodel the house to use it as a show-room and dwelling; meanwhile his fender-and-body work is being done in Jim Waldron's former shop back of the bank....Margaret Hullfish has been displaying a coconut sent to her from Oahu in the Philippines....Leon Hill was named recently as Master of Mercor Grange, of Hopewell....Sewage gas is causing a lot of annoyance to residents on Lafayette Street and vicinity....George Clark now heads the Sourland Mt. Sports Club; a "shoot" is being held once a month....Bill Boozer is attending Pennington School....Two men were killed when hit by a car in front of Brookside Inn while they were crossing the highway.

Hope you'll forgive the crowding, but I wanted to get in as much as possible. Would be fine to hear from you--and let me know if your address is correct. Best regards.

Dean H. Ashton, 97 W. Broad St., Hopewell, N.J.

Hopewell, New Jersey

March 4, 1946

Letter #2

Greetings:

It's time once again for a little round-up of news around town, hoping I can give you some items that you haven't heard about through letters. First, then a quick whirl around town.

TOWN HAPPENINGS----Soap powder was a pretty scarce article until Joe Poinsett, manager of the A&P store, located 70 cases, after which nearly every home in town was supplied. "Trying to clean up the town," Poinsett was told....A few new cars are seen around town. Ralph Marotta is fixing up a show-room for the new Frazier-Kaiser line of cars at the former Sunoco station on the west end of town..... Noon-hour luncheons held every two weeks in the basement of Calvary Baptist Church are proving very popular, with swift service and excellent food provided....A novel program at a recent Parent-Teacher meeting featured the "Quiz Kids," being High School pupils from Hopewell. One series of questions involved identification of objects entirely by touch, or by their smell. Lois Casey and Donald Allen finished at the top in the general competition.....Garrett P. Morrell, who made a reputation as a carpenter when as a young man he designed and installed an attractive ceiling in the Calvary Baptist Church, passed away on Feb. 8th....Open house at the Hopewell Jewelry Corporation factory on Model Avenue (former annex to the Grammar School) attracted quite a crowd last Saturday afternoon.

Betty Weart is now Mrs. Trexler E. Kent, being married on Lincoln's Birthday to a chap who is soon to be an undertaker. They're living on River Road, Washington's Crossing.....The Post Office sounds like a hatchery again these days, with boxes of baby chicks frequently on hand awaiting their purchasers.....Spencer Moore's store improvements now include a new store front--one step up and a ramp between newly designed windows. The interior is vastly improved, with semi-self-service as another feature....Hear about Harry Riley's practical joke? He was asked to deliver two dozen eggs to another railroader. Before delivering them, he boiled a dozen of them--and was the purchaser puzzled and surprised!

CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS----If plans now being considered by the Calvary Baptist Church are approved, the appearance of the front of the edifice will be changed to conform to the Colonial style of church architecture. Four pillars would support an extended portico. The present front wall would be extended about six feet toward Broad Street, and another six feet would provide a raised elevation. The outside stairway now in use would be entirely removed, with interior stairways of more attractive design provided. The front windows would be replaced with smaller windows. On the second-floor level, a pastor's study would be provided. Sketches showing three plans for alterations were placed on view at a meeting of the congregation last Friday night. The Colonial design was strongly favored. However, studies of costs and other details are being made with a view to definite action on Sunday, March 17. Pending a decision, damage caused by the recent fire adjoining the entrance to the Bible School room in the basement cannot be repaired to any extent.

RECREATION CENTER----It looks as if Hopewell Borough may be on the verge of doing something to provide a recreational center for its young people. Many agree that's there a real need for a worthwhile program and definite steps to make a suitable place available. One suggestion made is that Borough Council should name a committee to study the question; another proposal is that all organizations in town send a representative to talk it over. A pledge of support for such efforts has been voted by the congregation of Calvary Baptist Church, and other groups are expected to take similar action.

SCHOOL ELECTION----Two new members are now serving on the Borough Board of Education. They are Walter Lawyer and Robert Piggott. In a lively election on Feb. 13th, they were chosen, along with Clyde Deitzler, who was up for re-election. Wm. Stout and Alden Lewis, completing their terms, had decided not to be candidates for another term. At a subsequent meeting, Samuel K. Hunt was named as board president.

HOME AND DISCHARGED----Joseph Bregenser, S1/o, who was with the Pacific Fleet (U.S. Intrepid) is home again with his release from the Navy....Cpl. Zigmund Bealkowski, who parachuted with Infantrymen when Corregidor was re-captured, has returned, the seventh of the eight brothers in service (Stanley, S1/o, who has been at Great Lakes, Ill. expecting sea duty shortly).....William C. Belman, S1/o, is back after d'ty aboard the U.S.S. Jos. E. Conolly....Mention should have been made earlier of Cpl. Henry Orr, discharged after treatment at Hot Springs, Arkansas. He had returned last Summer from Maui, in the Philippines, where he served with the Infantry....Cpl. Thomas W. McCandless returned from Japan on Feb. 21. To put a fitting climax to his Army career (Infantry) he took off his combat boots almost as soon as he arrived home and gave them a heave across the room. Then he was ready for the chocolate cake he had ordered when he wrote his last letter from Japan, stating that all mail should be stopped, for he was about to be enroute.

(2)

DISCHARGED OR RETURNING---- Pfc. William L. Stonaker, who has been at Fort Belvoir, Va. with the Station Complement, has been discharged....Cpl. Graham L. Benson, who served as an Aviation Machinist's Mate with the Marines at Leyte and Mindanao in the Philippines, as well as an island near New Guinea, has been at Cherry Point, N.C. awaiting the "good word," and moved up to Bainbridge, Md. last week to be processed for discharge.....Cpl. George T. Everitt, who had been a guard at a Prisoner-of-war camp near Phoenix, Arizona, has moved to Calif. for discharge.... Sgt. B. Carl Hillman, Jr., on duty for many months near Honolulu with a S.A.W. Bn., is enroute home....Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland (Field Artillery) who has been in Germany and Belgium, is due back....Cpl. William Johnson (Infantry) who was wounded while in Germany and more recently has been studying at Shrivenham, England, is enroute home.....The same word comes concerning Cpl. S. Harris ("Bucky") Runyon (Infantry) who has been in Germany....Capt. Marcello Sommovigo is home on terminal leave from India, where he flew the "Hump" route many times. He also will be recalled as having parachuted from a burning plane over Canada earlier.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE----Harold VanLiew, A.O.M.2/c, finds himself in Korea when he has sufficient points for discharge from the Navy, and hopes to get a homebound vessel before long....Arch M. Adam, Jr., Pfc. in a U.S. Marine Battalion, who figured in the Iwo Jima campaign, is now on Maui in the Philippines with a Service Command, working as a motor transport mechanic.....T/5 William J. Ashton, who recently reenlisted, is with the Field Artillery at Fort Bragg, N.C....Pfc. Orville Carkhuff, who was home on leave, reenlisting after service in Japan, found his stay at home interrupted when his younger brother, Dean, developed diphtheria, so Orville ("Junior") went to Trenton to stay with an uncle.....T/4 Hosea Hopkins, who has made a career of Army service, recently reported back to Virginia, expecting to return to Germany for further duty....Richard Adam, formerly of Hopewell and serving in the Merchant Marine, has been in Okinawa for three months but was expecting to sail for India.....His brother, Robert, of the U.S. Marines, has been expecting to be shipped out but meanwhile has been guarding high explosives at Yorktown, Va.....Ernest Gas-kell, F2/c, who used to live in Hopewell and is now on the U.S.S. Alabama, was out in the Pacific recently while movies of the battleship Massachusetts were being taken. He has been at Long Beach but expected to move to San Francisco.

Robert Lowe is now S1/c aboard the U. S.S. Midway, the aircraft carrier that has been mentioned as likely to go to the Antarctic later for experimental work. Presently, however, he thought they would be making a trip to Iceland and be back in New York City around the first of April.....John M. Cromwell is now a Dental Technician at Camp Peary, Virginia. He had been a Hospital Apprentice 2/c, then started Dental Technician's School and finished top man in his class.

SINCE THEY WERE RELEASED----Wm. C. Eelman, Jr. had a narrow escape a few nights ago when his car hit a pole on West Broad Street, below Ego Avenue, then slid across the street and spun around to halt some distance away. The car was badly damaged but he walked away from the wreckage. The accident occurred at 2.30 A.M. and the car was removed the next morning.....J. Garrett Conover, who came home from Germany and France recently, is now in Florida, driving down his family. His brother, Delbert, went along but remained only about two weeks....William Bodine, notified that he could begin studies at Purdue University, at West Lafayette, Ind., left last week and will continue studies in electrical engineering...

ON THE POETIC SIDE----Does this remind you of Hopewell? It's a poem that recently appeared in the N.Y. Herald-Tribune, written by Bianca Bradbury:

All night long they come and go,
The Diesels swift, the long freights slow;
The hard crust shakes, the trestles creak,
The dark hills wail to the whistle's shriek,
The lonely spirit's endless flight
Off to nowhere in the night.
A sleepless man in a swaying berth
Longs for a snug, warm place on earth,
Another, stirring in his bed,
Longs to be on a train instead,
Driven and driven by man needs....

IN CLOSING----Thanks for the interesting letters that have come from a number of the recipients of this news-letter. Have been wanting to drop you a special line, but time hasn't permitted. So, how about regarding this letter as a "Thank you?" Hope you'll find some items of interesting in the foregoing, and that you'll be getting a glimpse of the home-town before too long. Meanwhile, best of luck.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON.

Hopewell, New Jersey

April 8, 1946

Letter #3

Hi-yuh! --

Feel in the mood for a little home-town news? I thought maybe this little news-letter might be a welcome visitor once again--hitting the high spots mostly, but perhaps telling a few things you wouldn't hear about otherwise.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE---Frank I. Maple, S2/c, was in town a few days ago, having returned from the Pacific where he had extensive duty with a Seabees outfit. He said he was due to go back...Robert Lowe, S1/c, returned very recently from Greenland, being aboard the U.S.S. Midway, 45,000-ton carrier while it was engaged in special cold-weather maneuvers. The Midway tied up in New York Harbor but now is proceeding to Norfolk.....Jack S. Ginter, S2/c, has been assigned to the new aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt. The ship was at Bayonne when he was assigned, so after coming east from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Jack was able to get home a number of times. He was due to leave for maneuvers in the vicinity of the West Indies which will continue until about June 1.....Bob Solan is stationed in Tokyo and is not due home until Summer at the earliest.....Jacko Boyle, son of Mrs. Ockelmann, has re-enlisted.....Varnell Gray went into the Navy about a month ago, being sent to Norfolk but was home on leave during the past week.....Glenn S. Agin, who took a Merchant Marine training course on the U.S.S. American Navigator and went to Long Beach, Calif. is around town and soon to be 18.....George Brain, who lived on Columbia Avenue, is now a PFC. and remains with the Army of Occupation in Germany.

HOME AGAIN---Quite a bunch of fellows have arrived in town during the past month, and jumping into civilian clothes without delay. Cpl. Norman G. Hoagland is home after going into Germany with the Field Artillery and serving subsequently in France and Belgium. He's swinging his paint brushes again and wearing one of those "Am I glad to be home?" smiles.....Cpl. Paul C. Stryker came back recently from Italy. Most recently, he was teaching at the Lido Study Center in Venice. His plans are said to be a little uncertain, although his job on the Elementary School staff is open for him.....Harold VanLiew, A.O.M.1/c, who served on the U.S.S. Boxer, aircraft carrier in the Pacific, came home this past week with his discharge. In the past year, he has had enough mileage to go around the world twice and has been in Japan, China, Guma, Saipan, Philippines, etc. He became a first-class Petty Officer just before he was due to start home.....Pfc. William E. Johnson returned from England this past week. He had been studying at Shrivonham, after duty in Paris following his wounding (chest injury). A number of others also have come back recently. Included are: Lieut. (j.g.) Charles Theo. Wyckoff, who was on an LST in the Pacific, being at Okinawa and Sasobo, Japan, with a chance to see the atomic bomb ruins at Nagasaki...; Claronco R. Habeeb, Y1/c, who in recent months had worked in the Navy Bureau of Supplies and Accounts at Cleveland, Ohio, after previously being in the Seabees for a year; T/4 V. Leroy Skillman, assigned to a Mod. Detachment at the Camp Edwards, Mass. Convalescent Hospital; Sidney Lutz, S1/c, who also has been out in the Pacific with the Seabees; T/5 Paigo Hoagland, Jr. who was on Iwo Jima for eight months with an Engineers Avn. Battalion; Richard P. Embloy, S1/c, who served on the U.S.S. Durik, a destroyer escort, with service that included four convoy trips across the Atlantic to Mediterranean ports; Cpl. Edward J. Tucker, home from Manila where he went after being in the European conflict as a tank driver; Capt. Robert M. Moyer, from the Pacific where he was an officer in an Engineers outfit; Raymond P. Bilgor, R.M.3/c; Sgt. Walter Rightmiro, who was in Europe, (and Raymond P. Bilgor); service, which I skipped over, was aboard an LSM on the Pacific.

Any day now, Pfc. Claronco G. Laird is due back from Guam where he has been with an Army Air Force Base Unit. He previously was on Saipan...Cpl. Stanley H. ("Bucky") Runyon, who has been over in Germany, also is expected...The same goes for Sgt. Bruce E. Vansant, who has been in Japan and serving as company clerk for Company C, of the 1629th Engineers Construction Battalion.

DETAILS OF FRANK EGE'S DEATH LEARNED---A first-hand story of the sinking of the ship on which Pfc. Frank N. Ege, of Columbia Avenue, lost his life, was obtained recently from official sources in Washington, and verified by Sgt. James J. Moonan, Ege's former neighbor. Moonan, in describing his own experience in being in a convoy attacked by German planes in the Mediterranean in April, 1944, mentioned the vessel that went down with 504 lives lost. A checkup revealed that it was the ship on which Ege was approaching his destination after crossing the Atlantic. Ege was in a Photo Reconnaissance Squadron while Moonan was with a Bomb Group. The complete destruction of the vessel carrying Ege was attributed to the fact that it was carry demolition charges.

she said to Vernon one day; "Nifty cap you have--wouldn't mind getting one like it-- where did you buy it?" Imagine her surprise when Vernon replied: "Manila!" which just goes to show that it sometimes slips out of the mind that fellows living in Hopewell nowadays have roamed all over the world, and buying a cap in the Philippines is just a little incident out of the past.

(2)

JACK SPERLING GOES ON TOUR----Remember how Jack Sperling loved to beat a ratta-tat-tat on the snare drum, with crash-cymbal accompaniment? Well, he's doing it in "big time" since getting out of the Navy. He is with the Glenn Miller band, directed by "Tex" Beneker. Their itinerary is expected to take them to the West Coast and work in motion pictures.

APR - 8 1946

BIDS SOUGHT ON CHURCH IMPROVEMENT----The congregation of Calvary Baptist Church is enthusiastic about the proposed new church front but is unable to learn immediately whether the work can proceed at this time. Contractors are being asked to submit bids and their replies will indicate whether materials are available, the approximate cost, etc. The plans call for four 18-foot columns, 24 inches in diameter at the base. The present high porch and outside stairway would be removed, with interior stairways providing access to the church auditorium on the upper floor. A finance committee has been authorized and the congregation is hopeful that the "Go ahead" signal can be given.

APR - 8 1946

SAD NEWS----The town has been saddened by the death of Mrs. Russell H. Van Sant, Jr., of the Model Apartments, whose worries over her health prompted her to seek death by inhaling fumes from an auto engine running in a closed garage. She leaves two small children. Her death occurred on the day that she was due to consult a specialist. Mrs. Van Sant was 28 years of age.

APR - 8 1946

UNION SERVICES----Lenten services, being held on Wednesday nights with the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Churches cooperating, have been well attended. Young people of the Methodist church conducted the program last Wednesday night in the Baptist Church. Many have commented on the spirit that prevails when townspeople assemble on common ground, forgetting denominational lines. At one of the services, C. Herbert Fetter, elder in the Presbyterian Church, spoke, and a few days later as honored by his church to mark 30 years of service in that position.

APR - 8 1946

CATHOLIC VETERANS ORGANIZE----The charter for a Hopewell post of the Catholic War Veterans was presented recently at ceremonies held in St. Alphonsus' Hall. The Commander, William C. Eelman, Jr., received the charter. The group is known as Stephen Myers Post, No. 538, having chosen to honor a former Hopewell man who lost his life on Feb. 15, 1945, in Luxembourg while he was serving as a Sergeant in the Fourth Armored Division.

APR - 8 1946

BACK ON THE JOB----Perhaps you're wondering what some of the fellows are doing who have returned in recent months. Graham L. Benson, finally discharged from the Marines, is working at the Rookwell (H.A.'s) plant; Julius Yahas, who also was in the Marines, is at the Quartermaster Depot, Belle Mead, where he was before entering service; Ken Hullfish was married recently; Garrott Conever has taken an office job up in North Jersey; Russ Holcombe, Jr. is helping Howard Larson, the well-driller; "Reg" Hurley and his brother, Dick, are running a luncheonette at Lawrenceville; Paul Ashton is studying pharmacy in Phila.; Arsh Litzon is working as a bakery route salesman in the Hightstown area; Harold Temple is taking special studies in insurance in Trenton; Robert A. Van Doren is busy with the 100-and-1 details of a coal-and-lumber yard; Jack Vanliou is working as a foreman for the partnership, Vanliou and VanHorn, of Flemington, in which his father has an interest; Anton Holstrom is working for Percy Leigh's Garage; Dr. J. "Reg." Plorson has gone out to the Univ. of Wisconsin to take some advanced studies.

APR - 8 1946

HEARD THIS ONE?----The census taker asked a Kentucky mountaineer how many children he had. "Four," he replied, "and, by cricky, that's all I'm a-gonna have, too."

"You seem very certain about it," the census taker commented.

"Yep, four and no more," said the mountaineer, "I ain't forgettin' what I read in the Almanac, where it said that every fifth child born is a Chinaman."

IN CLOSING----There you have it--a bit of news, such as occurred to me as possibly being of interest to you. Hope you're doing all right in every respect. Best of luck,

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON

97 West Broad Street

a "Thank you!" Hope you'll find some items of interesting in the foregoing that you'll be getting a glimpse of the home-town before too long. Meanwhile, best of luck.

Sincerely,

DEAN H. ASHTON.

Hopewell, New Jersey
May 14, 1946
Letter #1

And Hello--It Is:

A sizeable heap of days has tumbled from the calendar since I last sent you one of these catch-all letters with some of the news of Hopewell. Maybe it will give you a few items that haven't come your way heretofore.

WANNA BUY? WANNA SELL? That's what you'd probably be hearing if you were around town these days, for there's been a regular real estate boom in swing in recent weeks. So many people want to get located, either by renting or buying, that quite a market for property has been created. So some fancy prices are being paid and a number of places sold. It isn't always easy to get immediate possession, though. Useless for me to list all the sales, but here's a sample: Reynold Dansberry has purchased the former Faherty property on Princeton Ave.; young Clarence Runyon has acquired Mrs. Kirby's house on West Broad Street; the Larison property, next to Doc Vaughn's has been sold to Mrs. John Burd; the late Will VanDyke's house on West Broad has been sold to someone from the State Village; Cal Hill is offering a property next to the Post Office, ticketed at \$14,000, it's said; and so it goes. When they say that available property is scarce, they really mean SCARCE.

ON THE READING RAILROAD, orders came through for the closing of the Hopewell Tower, as well as the towers at Bellemead and Langhorne. It isn't regarded as a permanent order, but viewed as due to the reduction in the number of trains because of the shortage of soft-coal and the threatened strike in that branch of the mining industry. Many people are wondering how they can operate the lines if these three towers, or any one of them is closed down. To save coal, two trains in each direction have been taken off the Reading lines in recent days. The only trouble with that is that the Reading has a tendency to fail to restore service that is once curtailed. As for the coal strike, a two-weeks delay went into effect but a "brown-out" is still in effect throughout New Jersey, since the available surplus is plenty low.

THE BASEBALL SEASON in Hopewell got under way last week, with general rejoicing over the fact that there's a town team once again. The team has joined up with the Twin-M (Mercer-Monmouth-Middlesex--which sounds like Triple-M to me!) In the first game on the Hart Avenue field, Hopewell trimmed Plainsboro, 7-0. In a previous game, Hopewell vs. Adams, played at Adams, it was a 5-5 tie. It's twilight ball, with one a week at home. "Lefty" Carver is managing the team. Players include Bill Booser, Pete Ryan, Clarence Laird, Jr., etc. On the Princeton team in the same league there is Roger Yard and Tom Brophy, who used to play ball in town. Other teams in the league are; Monmouth Junction, Cranbury, Kingston, Livingston Park--and five mentioned Hopewell, Adams, Princeton and Plainsboro.

MEMORIAL DAY is going to be quite an event this year, with a turnout of World War II veterans that would knock a civilian's eye out. With over 200 from Hopewell Borough who served, the parade of veterans really will be the first big public assemblage of that sort. A place has been reserved right back of the band and the color guard. The usual route covering the cemeteries, St. Michael's Home and the World War I monument at the Elementary School will be followed. Winkler's Band is being obtained again in this year.

REPUBLICANS will be choosing their nominee for Governor on June 4th, only three weeks hence, but most voters decline to get stirred up about it. Former Governor Harold G. Hoffman, is making a strong appeal to veterans, having served in both wars and assisting at the New York Port of Embarkation and overseas with important assignments in the Transportation Corps. His opponent is Alfred Driscoll, a former State Senator and more recently State Alcoholic Beverage Commissioners.

SCORES OF BOYS AND GIRLS participated in the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Baptist Youth Fellowship, and staged in Newell Holcombe's meadow. Contributors had made the prizes attractive, ranging downward from \$10, and including movie tickets. Smaller children had the first five minutes to themselves, then the older boys and girls really did a clean-up job. The brook was somewhat of a problem to the smaller kids but the dyed eggs really had them searching. When the final whistle sounded, all went back to the Fire House for the awarding of prizes, and the refreshments, consisting of Pepsi-cola and pretzels. It was quite an outstanding community event, and the Baptist Youth Fellowship deserves a lot of credit for the way they made their plans and carried them through.

VERNON TEMPLE has been wearing a tricky cap. Fact is, he calls it his "skunk cap" for the middle section is white and the rest of it a dark blue. It was tricky enough to make Margaret "Meg" Hullfish feel like asking questions. So she said to Vernon one day: "Nifty cap you have--wouldn't mind getting one like it--where did you buy it?" Imagine her surprise when Vernon replied: "Manila" W oh just goes to show that it sometimes slips out of the mind that follows living in Hopewell nowadays have reamed all over the world, and buying a cap in the Philippines is just a little incident out of the past.

IMPROVEMENTS proposed at Calvary Baptist Church continue to hinge upon the final word from contractors. One bid has been received and others have been asked. But builders aren't eager to be tied down to a definite figure, since costs of materials and labor are so changeable these days. The job has been given a priority approval, in view of the fact that it will restore property damaged by fire (last January), but the church is anxious to know what the cost will be and also that the job, when started, will be carried through to completion within a reasonable time. The four Colonial columns, 18 feet high, are no special problem, it is understood, as the company specializing in that work, says they can be supplied without difficulty.

A FEW MORE VETERANS have received honorable discharges and are getting back to civilian life. Frequently, they're heard to say about two weeks later, "I guess I'll go back into the Army" (after they've tried to buy white shirts, a suit of clothes, or find a place to live) but 90 percent of them are only kidding. Cpl. James H. Hall is back, after a long tour of duty at Camp Polk, La. following overseas service during which he was wounded. Of late, he has been doing some driving for officers at Camp Polk....Cpl. Bruce Vansant is back from the Pacific, after being with an Engineers Construction Battalion in Japan....Lieut. Florence M. DeHart came home a few days ago from Germany where she has been serving as a nurse in an Army Hospital....Sgt. Stanley H. ("Bucky") Runyon reached home about April 24th, arriving from Europe after being on duty in Berlin, Germany, for quite a while..... And Capt. Monte Sommovigo recently ended his terminal leave, after coming home from many trips over the "Hump" in Burma while flying for the Air Transport Command. Fact is he had over 2,000 hours of flying time, to say nothing of that experience over Canada months back when a plane being flown to Alaska caught fire and he was forced to take to a parachute....And Cpl. Parvin R. Stryker, Jr., of Blawenburg, is out of the Marines. He saw service in the Pacific, was wounded and in recent months has been at Bainbridge, Md., getting back home most week-ends.

WITH THOSE IN THE SERVICE. Jack S. Ginter, S2/o postcards from Port of Spain, Trinidad, that he's been coxswaining an officers' liberty boat around those islands, after being on maneuvers aboard the carrier, U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt. He expects to hit Cuba and Porto Rico next...Wonder why I always say that Pfc. Harry E. McCandless (Field Artillery) is in the Philippines, when I know all the time that the island of Oahu is in the Hawaiians. He's hoping to get home this Fall...Those maneuvers in the South Atlantic have included the U.S.S. Midway, the giant carrier on which Robert E. Lowe is serving as a S2/o. Newspapers report that the maneuvers have revealed a lot, and later carriers will have a higher bow to lessen water damage such as the "Midway" suffered in an Arctic storm while far North; also to relocate life raft stations, strengthen hangar deck doors, and move the Admiral's bridge to the forward part of the "island."...Pfc. Orville Wyokoff is with the 2nd Division (Infantry) at Fort Lewis, Wash. They had been at Camp Stoneman, Calif. and paraded in San Francisco on Army Day (April 5th)...Pvt. Robert Adam, of the Marine Corps, suspects that it's going to be Yorktown, Va. for him until he gets his discharge next Sept. or Oct. He's been guarding ammunition. A Welcome change was the arrival of the aircraft carrier "Princeton" there in mid-April, as he knew some fellows aboard...His brother, Dick, is home or due in after an eight-months trip to Okinawa and other islands, while Arch (Marine Cargo Company, Service Command) and Jim (A.A.A. Bn.) are expecting to be discharged this month...Ernest Gaskell, Fl/c (Pennington) moved during April from Frisco to Bremerton Navy Yard and Seattle, Wash. Beautiful country, he says, with distant, snow-covered mountains and tall pine trees but he adds, "I'll still take Jersey any day."

AROUND TOWN...Donald Dilts and Charles Bregenzler were hurt in an auto mishap near the high bridge south of Pennington yesterday when their car driven by Edward Gudato, of Woodville left the road. It ran into an open field. Dilts had a possible fracture of the back and shoulder cuts, while Bregenzler had a possible nose fracture....Walter A. Titus has sold out his business of Titus Motor Sales to Ralph Motors (Ralph Marotta)....Luncheon at Calvary Baptist Church continue to be popular and well patronized, benefitting the heating fund...Gebhart's Hotel has been getting a coat of paint, the metallic kind....Dr. Donald Dilworth, Hopewell's newest physician, was the guest speaker at Calvary Baptist Church two Sundays during a leave of absence granted to the pastor, Rev. Raymond A. Gray, who had been ill. Dr. Dilworth is studying at Princeton Seminary, previously obtaining his medical degree in California in preparation for work in the mission field....Mr. Gray is well along toward recovery; just a victim of overwork (although lots of folks have no idea how hard a minister really works)....Jack Flagg and Alberta Hausenbauer were married on April 21st...Paul Stryker, former Hopewell teacher, has taken an apartment for the present near Morristown.

IN CLOSING. Have a notion this will close this series of letters, so I can concentrate on the completion of material to go into the book about Hopewell and its servicemen. Sorry to call a halt but the other job must get done--and furthermore, here's hoping you'll be back home right soon. Best of luck, and it's been a pleasure chatting along with you. Sincerely,
Dean H. Ashton.