

TOWNSHIP TOPICS

HURRICANE PLAYS HAVOC

The night of September 14th will long be remembered by the residents of Scotch Plains. A hurricane up from the South blasted its wild and furious way through town causing untold damage. Young trees and old trees, many well beyond their 100th year and irreplaceable, were torn down carrying with them electric and telephone lines and throwing whole sections into complete darkness. The few candles and kerosene lamps in the stores were quickly sold. Those homes having artesian wells were without water for days because of lack of power.

Allan C. Mannon, roads superintendent in charge of highway salvage work, said the storm damage was the worst experienced in his 20 years of service. The Road Department employees worked throughout most of the night in an attempt to clear the main arteries and were out the next day removing branches from dangling wires and clearing heavily used roads and streets.

All members of the Police Department were called out on emergency duty and performed yeoman service. All in all, the situation was well handled under difficult circumstances and all hands deserve commendation for their untiring efforts. Fortunately no one was injured during the storm only property damage being reported.

Among those hardest hit were Harry Jorgensen of Johnson Avenue, who lost five trees and Jack Callahan of Old Raritan Road who lost six.

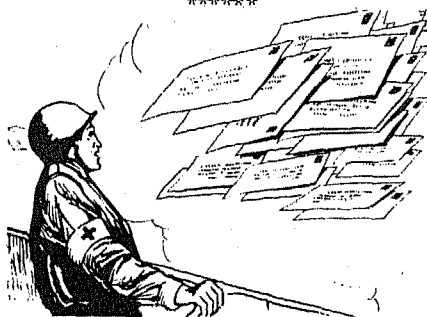
The Rahway Road section was thrust back into the Dark Ages. And dark it was there with only candles and kerosene lamps, no ice boxes, no electric stoves, and worst of all, no electric water pumps. For two days, every other car was an ice wagon hauling ice from town. The Morell's were forced to feed the Dunbars for two whole days and it was a common sight to see Mrs. Furman strolling up your drive with her wash cloth and tooth brush in hand. The Terry's well had a run on it, neighbors traipsing back and forth all day and night with bottles, jugs and teakettles, in quest of that valuable commodity-water. Greatest of all problems, of course, was watering the animals. But 48 hours and 40 minutes after the lights went out, they went on again and up and down the road people blinked at the glare and leaned back in their chairs while a look of heavenly bliss crept over their faces as they heard the ice boxes and water pumps begin to hum again.

The loss of trees was heavy. Judge Voorhis lost a beautiful elm and a black walnut both of which blocked the road. But due to the heroic efforts of the S P road men, the road was cleared that night. They arrived on the scene shortly after the trees fell and, working right through the storm, they had a path cleared for cars by midnight.

Sawing wood has been the popular sport in town since the storm and most of the damage has been cleared, but many gaps in the tree lines remind one that the hurricane passed this way.

In the final game of the season at the Fanwood Oval, the CRESTWOOD ACRES softball team took the measure of the FANWOOD MEN'S CLUB by the time of 17 to 5. This decisive victory gave the Scotch Plainers the series two games to one. Manager Les Warren who played a fine consistent game all season, promises a Crestwood line-up for 1945 that will defy the best of any and all opposition.

The Crestwood Service Station bowling team, sponsored by genial and efficient owner Andrew Fraser Abel Jr. got under way at the Plainfield Recreation Center as members of the Tuesday Nite Commercial League. The team consists of Les Warren, Joe Dempsey, Gordon Erlich, Paul Givaudan and Jake Wertz with Douglas Howie as alternate. The team has performed credibly to date. Warren and Givaudan are the high-scorers with averages of 185.



I'm Waiting a Letter from YOU

I'm a soldier now for the USA
I get lonely at times and at times
I pray
I look toward the sky and I find
that it's blue
Yet here I am praying - for a
letter from YOU.

I look at the clock as the hours
tick by
And I turn on my cot and I turn
and I sigh.
The lights are turned out, the day
is all through
I'm waiting a letter - a letter
from YOU.

Don't ever forget we're fighting
to win
We need all your help so won't you
pitch in?
It's not very much we ask you to do
Only send us a letter - a letter
from YOU.

Mail time draws near - there's a
bedlam of joy
I feel like a kid with a new
shining toy.
They just called my name, now I'll
never be blue
'Cause I just got a letter ---
A letter from YOU.

----- over the radio by
Arthur Godfrey.

And over in Crestwood Acres, Mr. and Mrs. Woodman, of St. Albans, L. I., have moved into the home which they purchased from the Peter Paynes on Hill Road. The Woodmans are renovating and expect to have things in tip-top shape before long.

The women bowlers of Chestnut Farms are at it again but stronger than ever this year. Four '4-man' teams captained by Mrs. Haven Foote, Mrs. A. C. Miller, Mrs. Chas. Bruemmer and Mrs. Alvin Bender will bowl every week during the season.

Gladys Caprario, The Scotch Plainsman's diligent and efficient reporter in Crestwood adds a postscript to her reports reading "Gosh, we live a dull life."

Our only comment on this must be that if the pace that the Chestnut Farmers and the Crestwood Acres gang set constitutes a DULL LIFE, our little neck of the Township must have been buried years ago.

Rudolph Wimmer of Hill Road has been sent to Curacao, a small island off the coast of Venezuela, by his firm, where he will supervise some vital and important construction work for the Dutch Government.

The Crestwood Civic Association will hold its annual Dinner-Dance on Saturday evening, October 28th, at the Colonia Country Club. A pleasant time is looked for by the members and their friends who plan to attend. The Committee on Arrangements is in charge of Jacob Wertz, Paul Givaudan, Preston Shimer and Charles Shimer.

The Crestwood Garden Club recently had the pleasure of having Mr. J. Oakwood of the Union County Shade Tree Commission take them on tour of the Crestwood area. Mr. Oakwood advised the members on the proper care of trees and lawns. Persons interested in the care of their lawns, gardens, trees and other horticultural matters are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the Club, according to a recent suggestion of Preston Shimer, its President.

From Cleveland, Ohio, comes a postcard from good old Pete Payne. He writes: "Here's regards to prove that absence and distance mean nothing to friends." When this issue of The Scotch Plainsman reaches Cleveland, Pete will know that his friends in Scotch Plains are thinking of him and Helen too.

Each issue of The Scotch Plainsman receives very encouraging reviews by the Plainfield-Courier News and the Elizabeth Daily Journal.

Interest is widespread in your service-paper and editors Elwood Van Allen and Bill Garbe have received many requests to appear before local organizations to tell about the workings of the paper. During the past few weeks, besides the Rotary Club Van and Bill have also addressed the Fanwood Men's Club and several commitments have been made for future dates.