

OUR FIGHTING MEN

One of our very faithful correspondents is Cpl. Johnny Long Jr., 1252 AAF BU, NAFD - ATO, APO 524, c/o P. M., New York. He mailed us two copies of THE BACKLOG, base newspaper issued by the North African Division of the Army Transport Command which we thoroughly enjoyed reading. Well, let's get back to Johnny's letter:

"We were told this week that if we cared to we could send home a camp paper called 'The Backlog' and I'm taking the liberty of sending one to you. If you care for them, I might be able to send one to you every month or whenever they come out.

We can also tell you that we are stationed at Casablanca, North Africa. This base is the stopping off place for all trips and I see every one that comes in. I work at operations and that puts me in touch with all planes that come in. You see I'm in charge of the line-taxis for the crews and we pick up all crews coming in and then take the outgoing crews to their ships.

The weather here is swell but I know it couldn't compare with ours back home.

I can never wait for my Plainsman to reach me for the news that's in it. I enjoy it so much and with your permission I would like to donate a little towards the expense of keeping the paper going. I know a good many of the other boys from Scotch Plains feel as I do about sharing the expense. I for one would like to see the paper continued after the war.

I wish you continued success with the paper. Why not a picture of the staff working on the paper. It's time for work again so I must close. Always, Johnny Long."

Lay off the thought of any contribution Johnny. You guys are doing enough without assuming any responsibilities of the homefront. Don't you worry, those of us concerned will see that this paper is kept going until you fellows come home and getting the money to finance it is the least of our worries. There're always a few guys in and out of Scotch Plains on whom we can put the bee for dough when we need it. But thanks just the same for your generous thought.

S/Sgt Richard A. Carter, 32918336 316th Ord. Amm. Co., APO 339, c/o P.M., New York, N. Y., writes from somewhere in Germany,

"After receiving The Scotch Plainsman just yesterday, I am unable to say how grateful I am. It is the only paper that reaches us over here someplace in Germany. I have been getting it very regularly every month and when it arrives, I just can't wait to read about the happenings going on there and how the fellows in the service are making out.

Thanks a million for the answer to my request about the Moonglowers in my letter to you. Just hearing about them and the fellows there in school now, really gives this G I the stuff to go on and get this

mess over with. Have quite a time reading the paper because all the boys here want to read it also, so in order to get first preference to read it I have to camouflage myself in the woods or some place where I can be by myself. So you



can see The Scotch Plainsman is doing a great job and I hope that I'll be able to get one as long as it is being printed.

Remember me to all the student body of good old SPHS and tell them to keep up the good work during the seasons of different sports. I wish I could be there to help them on their way.

So, until I receive my next issue of the good Scotch Plainsman, which I will enjoy as I have the others in the past, I'll come to a close and remain. S/Sgt. Richard Carter."

From the China-Burma-India theatre, comes a letter from Monroe Harris who is stationed there with Co. A, 3106th Signal Serv. Bn., APO 465 c/o PM, New York.

"I must add my two cents' worth to the host of commendations already flooding your mail-box from all corners of the globe. During four years in the army I have seen several different service mens newspapers. But, believe me, none can hold a candle to the Plainsman. Congratulations to you, its publishers - we're mighty proud of our paper and the town!

Being a Fanwood-ite myself, I owe my thanks to the Fanwood Defense Council for including us on the Plainsman mailing list. Here is once, at any rate, Fanwood must tip its hat to SF.

I am stationed here in Calcutta, India, my first overseas assignment and am as happy as any GI could be so far from home. Luke Pandick, S P H S grid star of '34 and '35 is here too and many a happy bull session on days of yore is spent.

I saw Lt. Bob Buttle recently passing through on his way to a new station."

(ED. NOTE: Appreciate your letter, Monroe, all except that one crack about Fanwood-Scotch Plains. We think Fanwood should tip its hat to Scotch Plains ALL THE TIME. As our Chit-Chats Editor would say "always kiddin' aren't I").

George Scherff used to be the big works in the Police Reserves but he resigned to take a more active part in the war and now he's Commander George D. Scherff, USMS,

skipper of the s/s Willie Jones, c/o Postmaster, New York. From Santos, Brazil, he writes:

"Dear Gang:

Just a few lines to let you know I'm alive and well. My conscience has been bothering me for a considerable length of time for I thought I would write. I have received another edition of the Plainsman and it does one good to learn of what is going on back home. I might add that in the past, I have received the Plainsman all over the world, the last issue having been received while I was in Murmansk, USSR. Your paper sure gets around!

Enclosed you will find a photo of 'yours truly' taken in front of Sugar Loaf Mountain, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. You may use it as you see fit if you so desire. There isn't much else that I can say at the present time other than it is a bad as the proverbial hinges of hell, if you know what I mean.

My best regards to all the gang, Alex Campbell, Pop and Joe Alberts, Ch. Erholm and the Police Dept. and all the rest of the gang. Tell them I'll be seeing them one of these days. Comm. Geo. D. Scherff, USMS."

1st. Sgt. Joe Donatelli, in the Philippines with the Base Sv. Sq 385th Air Sv Grp (Sp), APO 72, San Francisco, Calif., wrote us an interesting letter under date of February 8th which just reached our desk the other day. Belatedly, we print Joe's eye-witness letter:

"Your December issue of the Scotch Plainsman was the first piece of mail to reach me after we hit these islands. As you know, this is a comparatively new front and supplies for war are the most important thing. Mail is very scarce. I would greatly appreciate if you would forward the paper to my new APO address.

I'm trying hard to catch up to my brother Tom who is somewhere near. He is with that famous 1st Cavalry Division and participated in the initial landings here in the Islands and has also seen a lot of other combat duty.

Living conditions here in the Islands are not so bad. However, one cannot but pity the poor Philippine natives who have been subjected to all sorts of cruelty from the hands of the Japanese. The Japanese have left them little or nothing. They have been stripped of all their clothing and we try to help them out, giving all we can spare. To them, victory by the Americans meant new life. They will do anything for an American soldier. It is hard to express in writing their feelings. You just have to see it with your own eyes. To them we owe the credit for our success here in the Philippines.

About all for now as there is work to be done. I'm sure you won't forget to send me a copy of the paper. Sincerely, Joe." PS - A sample of the worthless Japanese invasion money is enclosed."

Birthday Greetings

SNUFFY'S TAVERN
Park Ave., Scotch Plains

*Don't Let Up Now!
Keep on Buying Bonds!*

Birthday Greetings

Fred. Chemidlin
MIDLIN MODELS
Park Ave., Scotch Plains