

Well kids, here we go again. Needless to say we're all pretty happy for all you guys and gals in the European Theatre, but then we knew you could do it, and YOU DID. We'll be seeing lots of familiar faces around the old town before long and who are we to be complaining? Don't forget poor little me, still slaving away at the high school office. Heaven help you if you don't drop in to say "hello" at least. But of course you couldn't overlook me, how COULD you? (Purely a matter of speaking now, but I am getting bigger, DARN IT!!). I better stop that right now or all you'll hear about is me, fashions, weather, yattata, yattata, yattata.

We have more bright news this time. First on the list is that our long time pal (seems that he's been in the spotlight quite a bit lately) finally did get home to see that new daughter of his. Yep, Les Thompson breezed in and spent a 17 day furlough with the newly born and his wife in Kansas. He's now stationed in Atlantic City where he expects to be an instructor, so no doubt we'll get a peek at him sooner or later. We're a little put out with him cause even after all the publicity we've given him, he didn't even drop in for a minute. Oh well, can't say that I blame him though.

Then too, I was really honored when an old pal of mine, Cpl. Jack Milwater to be exact, dropped in for a little chat. Jack hasn't changed one bit, still has that sparkling smile that captivates everyone who knows him. He told me a few things that really made me laugh, you know, all that stuff about the Company Sad Saak, etc. Jack's been given a 21 day furlough and after spending over three years overseas, I'd say he certainly deserved it. He's waiting for those points to be added so he can spend the rest of his life a civic.

Another very good friend of mine, Donald McManus, known to all as Duck got a leave and came around to see all the old gang here at school. "Duck" is assigned to the U.S.S. Jersey and certainly has been around. He's been with the 5th and 3d Fleets, and sports 6 battle stars on all those service ribbons he's proud to



wear. He's had the pleasure of meeting General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz, Admiral King, Admiral Halsey and a few other big shots and says they're all regular guys. He had the good fortune to bump into none other than Tony Fanaro who's in Pearl Harbor now. "Duck" says he has a soft job and knowing Tony I bet he talked his way into that. He was the first SP boy that "Duck" met during his 28 months over there.

Living right next door to me is the Schmey family with two boys in the service. Joern, U. S. Navy was home recently from Union College, New York, where he is enrolled in a V-12 program, and Peter, U. S. Army is over in Germany. Guess he'll be one of you lucky boys to get home, that is if his points add up to 85.

Andy Loeffler, Jr., now in Germany, has written his mother of a thrilling incident which I happened to learn about. I think it's very worth while mentioning so here goes. While looking around, Andy found a page of the N. Y. Journal American, probably a wrapping from someone's package, and there, smiling up from the now dirty paper, was the face of none other than his friend, Don Meyer. Even there--in Germany--as if by fate, a little bit of Scotch Plains had travelled all that way to cheer up a then quite weary soldier.



Since Germany has finally given up, good news has been pouring in from all sides. There can be no greater news than hearing of you boys being released from those prison camps. This issue I can report that Frank Kavanaugh and Joe Blotner were among the first to be released. Joe is on his way home already and I presume that Frank is also, or will be very shortly. All we have to do now is get that other guy with the thick glasses and huge teeth to lay down his arms, and all the gang will be coming home. Don't think we're not all behind you here either, 'cause we are. Just wait 'til you see the figures on our 7th War Loan Drive and you'll see what I mean.

Two other buddies are home after spending from 8 to 10 months overseas. I reported previously that George Vernon and Larry Powers were wing partners, they still are but now in stead of sharing wings, they're home together and probably sharing girls. I couldn't be sure of that, but I wouldn't be surprised. They both have a 30 day, leave, after arriving in this country a few days ago by boat.

Harold Manner and Ben Zmuda, two members of the Merchant Marine are home after spending 3 and 6 months overseas. Harold's three months were spent in the Pacific. I'd give any thing to have that tan they both have.

No longer wearing their Navy blues but now sporting their sharp civies--are Wellington Ford and Vernon Mac Neil. Wellington was taking his boot at Great Lakes but due to a medical deficiency, was discharged after 1½ months. Vernon completed his boot at Great Lakes, and was at Ft. Eustis, Virginia, when he was discharged.

Dick Kearney, formerly of the Army, was also discharged recently due to his vision. Dick plans to attend Wale in the Fall.

Well chums and chumlets, guess that's all for this time. Not much of a column is it? Well, just let me know some more news and I'll be only too glad to pass it on through my little write-ups. However, if any of you guys get the time to write, you'd better address them to Mrs. James E. Herrick since that'll be my new name after the 16th of June. So saloon, see ya liquor. (Now, how did THAT get in there). Your Chit-Chat Editor.

The Spring sports program is going full tilt with a large number of boys participating. The old athletic field in the rear of the school is really buzzing with activity each afternoon after school--shot put, pole vault, jumps and track on the edges with the baseball team in the center. In spite of the crowded conditions, no casualties have been reported to date.

Now for some specific results of all this activity. The baseball team has won three games, tied two and lost five. Jack Todd pitched a beautiful no-hit game at North Plainfield to take them by a score of 6-1. "Mitch" Sylvester's triple saved the day at Sayreville to the tune of 5-3, while Angles' triple at St. Mary's won that game in the last inning. Angle again produced a triple at Dunellen to tie the game in the 5th at 5 all. A heavy shower intervened to save Dunellen from a real beating.

The boys on the track team have shown one of the best track and field records in the history of school. They have taken dual meets from North Plainfield, Pingry, and Regional and lost a heart-breaker to Bound brook 53 to 51. "Mitch" Sylvester is a consistent point winner in the shot and discus, while Ken Howell crashes through regularly in the high jump and pole vault. Tommy Williams has been sweeping up the track in the half-mile by winning in fast time in each meet. Capt. "Pete" Lamsha has also been taking the mile consistently. Coach Ray Callaghan reports that he has a number of freshman comers and the winning of two junior high meets indicates he is right.

Speaking of junior high athletics, Coach Jensen has been busy directing a red hot intra-mural soft ball contest with twelve teams participating. Biggest problem is to find a field upon which to play the games--School #1, the park play ground and our own athletic field have all been used.

The elementary schools are also active in spring sports. It looks like School #3 will again win the elementary soft ball championship. Coach Ralph Kehs has a real combination and a lot of new talent. School 3 also took the elementary track and field meet but School #4 gave them a close run right up to the last event.

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