

OUR FIGHTING MEN

country. I sure miss Scotch Plains and my little home in Maple Hill Farms. I'll bet its spring grandeur and verdure are quite a joyous sight.

Since the first of January I have been learning the duties of a Nutrition Officer in the Army. I am now a second lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps. One of my most interesting courses of study was in the Nutrition Laboratory of the Medical Department U. S. Army, in Chicago. I am now assigned as Post Nutrition Officer and Post Food Supervisor at Camp Upton, N. Y., which is now the ASF Convalescent Hospital. My address is now Lt. Robert Nanz, SNC, Quarters #180, Camp Upton, N. Y.

Many thanks for sending your fine homey paper."

From Germany, Capt. Charles H. Prout, O1296577, HQ 100th Div., APO #47, c/o PM, NY., writes:

"My thanks are a little belated but none the less sincere for the swell paper you are putting out so frequently for us. Journalism is my business and I have a fair idea of the amount of effort there is involved in putting out The Scotch Plainsman. It's really serving a wonderful purpose too.

I have run into very few fellows from either Fanwood or Scotch Plains in my three years and some odd months in the Army and your paper has served to bring me up to date on so many of my old friends. Bob Buttle, with whom I went through both high school and college, is about the only one I still keep contact with personally and even our correspondence has dwindled to a yearly exchange of Christmas cards.

For my personal activities, I came in the Army in April, 1942; took basic training at Camp Croft, S. C., went to OCS at Benning, and have been public relations officer for the 100th Inf. Division ever since. I married Dot Baldwin of Tabor City, N. C. in 1943 and am now sweating out the chance to get back home to her again.

Sgt. Herbert H. Lambertsen, 32769 518, H Q 8951 FWTE, Det. F, APO 350, c/o PM, New York, V-mails a change of address and adds,

"At the present time, these Jerry PW's are keeping us busy but I will drop this little note to say that I sure look forward to receiving your paper each month. It lets me know just what the story is back home (as we say in the Army). I am another who hopes that you will continue the paper after the war is over. This is all for now as I must get back to work. One of these days on some of my free time (that I'm looking for) I'll drop you a short letter."

Pvt. Lester L. Bernardo, Co. B, 38th Inf., APO 2, c/o PM, New York, is anxious to contact any Scotch Plainsman in Czechoslovakia. Here's his letter.

"This is one of those dreary days in May - I mean May and I happen to be a bit dreary too. The main reason for being that way is that I fell

asleep and missed chow. (Oh, could I eat a STEAK!). I would still be asleep if someone hadn't awakened me to give me my mail. Then to make it cool what should I spy but the May issue of The Scotch Plainsman (my mistake, I mean the April issue). At last, since Germany's finished, we have a chance to get a rest (at least what the Infantry calls a rest) with daily exercises, inspections and whatnot.

If any of the fellows I know are in the 38th, 23rd or 9th Infantry Regiments, or even in Czechoslovakia put it in the paper someplace. I haven't seen a Scotch Plainsman in a long, long time.

I close with thanks for the splendid job you are doing keeping up the boys' morale.

I'm still sleepy!! At Ease, Les.

Pfc. Howard F. Wynn, 42007077, QM Service Co. 3105, APO 230, c/o PM, N Y, now that Germany is "kaput", finds time to write and say,

"Hello Editor:

My 2nd copy of The Scotch Plainsman arrived two days ago and I really enjoyed it. I am looking forward to the next one. I think your idea of putting the fellows names and addresses in the paper is an excellent idea for I have learned the location of several friends I would not have found otherwise.

Have been overseas a year and one month. First in England, then in France, Belgium and now Germany.

Although the war with Germany is over, things have not changed much. Here in Germany it is lonely, not much to do and no place to go. There is one thing I hope won't happen but I expect that it will. I don't want to go to the Southwest Pacific, but being in the Army, I expect anything to happen.

Well, thanks for the wonderful paper and don't stop sending them."

We believe the following letter from Pfc. Charles Dawson, 42000958, 1415 AAF BU, ED-ATC, APO 741, c/o PM, NY, is the first we have from Sweden.

"Just a couple of lines to tell you how much I appreciate The Scotch Plainsman. I've just received the March issue and have enjoyed it and all the others which have arrived.

In my time overseas I have not met any of my friends who are also overseas. For that reason it is very nice to be able to read of them in the paper.

Well, I have been in England seven months, in Scotland four, and for the past three months serving for the Air Transport Command in Sweden. It is only now possible to let you know of my whereabouts.

I enjoy my work in the ATC and my stay in Sweden, but there isn't any place I've found that can compare with our hometown, Scotch Plains.

I always look forward for the next issue of The Scotch Plainsman and all I can say is thanks and please keep it rolling."

A letter from Cpl. Malcolm E. Nottingham, 2735, Group 2, Class 325, Yuma AAF, Ariz., gives a good outline of the studies involved in training to become a member of a bomber crew:

"Hello Scotch Plainsman:

For taking so long to write to you apologies are in order. Sincerely ask you to forgive me - please.

I've been receiving The Scotch Plainsman for quite a few months now and since I've lived in SP for a great many years, you can readily see that the paper is of great interest to me. Thru your paper, I've been able to learn the whereabouts of a lot of my SPSH classmates, teachers and friends (class of '36) - and according to your reports, they're giving a good account of themselves. I like your coverage of the hometown "goings-on" - I especially enjoyed seeing my Mother's name in print, listed as a captain of one of the zones during the Bond drives.

I've been looking around for some new adjectives with which to praise your work but I haven't found any that would tell you how much I've enjoyed every issue - I really have; and I appreciate your sending it to me - thanks a million.

I was a little longer getting in to the Army than most of the fellows I know from SP - in fact I've been in less than a year, which more or less explains my presence here in the U.S. I went thru "basic" at Keesler Field, Miss. - after which I was sent to the A F parent Radio School at Scott Field, Ill. The course there is 26 weeks long - 26 weeks of learning the "whys" and "hows" of aircraft radio operation and maintenance, which included the "dits" and "dahs" of the Morse code and some flying. From Scott Field, I was sent here to the A F Flexible Gunnery School to "learn how to use the calibre .50 machine gun in 6 easy weeks" - plus more radio - plus parachute and oxygen courses, upon which an air-crew member's life is largely dependent. I've completed the courses here and now I am what is known in the Air Force as a "radio gunner". Right now I'm awaiting assignment to a "bomber group". I missed the scrap in Europe but I intend to make up for it in the Pacific.

Again - thanks for the paper - it's really great - even fellows who have never been to Scotch Plains like to read it.

Say "hello" to the townsfolk for me. May God bless all of you. Au revoir."

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN --

With millions of troops being deployed to other areas of operation, the problem of mail deliveries is tremendous.

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