

OUR FIGHTING MEN



T/Sgt. Ed. Bahr of H. Q. Battery 119 FA Grp., APO 758, c/o PM, NY, smiles a greeting to The Scotch Plainsman from Frankfurt, Germany. He writes:

"I've been meaning to write a note of thanks to the people who make The Scotch Plainsman possible since I received my first copy last year.

I'm still working on our mighty Piper Cubs and in my spare moments I try to add up my points by the 2 plus 2 equals 5 method. Just now we are operating from a field that would make a civilian pilot's hair stand on end. It's on a very steep hill and the only place available due to the extremely wet ground. I have yet to meet anyone from home although we did have a boy from Westfield in our outfit.

I'm glad to see that a lot of the boys are getting home. I'll try to join them soon. Well, so long every one, and thanks again. Ed Bahr."

A letter from Paul Novak Jr., from El Centro, Calif., makes Ye Scribe smack his lips in anticipation of the reunion Paul promises. Paul writes:

"Dear Bill:

"Before I give you some good news I think I'd better apologize for not writing to the staff while I was overseas. I'm a pretty sorry Marine when it comes to corresponding as my wife and parents have probably told you.

"However, that's all going to be water under the bridge as tomorrow, 25 September 45, I will be a civilian. Yep, instead of shaping up in my forest-green, I'll be zoot-suiting it 'till hell won't have me.

I was able to scrape together 67 service points, 25 more for battle stars, so brother, that DOES IT! I also am permitted to wear the Presidential unit citation. I don't know exactly what my plans are yet for the future. I do have a few irons in the fire.

I do know one thing, Bill. I plan on staying here in El Centro for a while and I'd like to continue receiving The Scotch Plainsman. It is a wonderful paper and I can't begin to tell you how much I've enjoyed reading each copy from cover to cover. All of you on the staff deserve one big round of applause with bouquets. When I get back Bill, I want you to have a damn good drink on me at Novak's, O. K? (Ed. Note: It's a date, Paul).

So, until then, take it easy and thanks again. Sincerely, Paul Jr."

P. S. My new address will be "Mr." (not T/Sgt.) Paul Novak Jr., 704 Sandalwood Drive, El Centro, Calif."

**They finished
their job ...**

Here's a missive from nice-letter writer, Alvin F. Bender from the U S Navy Receiving Station at Philadelphia, who starts off with:

"To the Swell Publishers:

"Rather than miss a single issue of the Plainsman, I'm going to struggle with this pen to inform you of my change of address for a short time. I'm always looking forward to reading the latest issue of our ever enjoyable publication of all the news of all the people of Scotch Plains and Fanwood whom I hope to meet some day. Keep up the excellent work!"

From Spa, Belgium, Detlev Hauck writes:

"Your Scotch Plainsman reaches me regularly and is my main source of news about old friends both in and out of the service. It is certainly time I registered my appreciation to those responsible for its origination and publication. It can't be put in words how greatly I have appreciated it and how eagerly I await its arrival. Compared to all other town papers and servicemen's publications, it is the envy of them all. It is as personal as a letter yet as practical as an almanac. Often I find the addresses of friends in it whom I am thus able to contact by mail. All in all, it brings the home-front, as well as all the other fronts at which there are men and women of Scotch Plains serving directly to us all who read it. For all of these facts, I thank you very kindly. Sincerely, Detlev Hauck."

After meeting Capt. Devereaux, Sgt. James A. Johnson, 825th Amph. Trk. Co., APO 72, c/o PM, San Francisco, Calif., penned these words:

"Hello Editor:

"I know you'll be quite surprised to hear from along - lost home-town boy and really I feel ashamed because I haven't written you before. Nevertheless, it's better late than never.

"First I must say that words cannot express my appreciation for the Scotch Plainsman. It has been a help to us all in locating our friends. It gives me great pleasure to say that it has brought Captain Devereaux, Ed. Seabon and myself together for nice meetings. Captain Devereaux was a member of the high school faculty back in 41 and 42. It was swell to meet someone from home after about fourteen months overseas. He showed up his type of work and I must say it is most interesting. We went to a baseball game which our company played in the semi-final round-up for the base championship. We were unfortunate that day because we lost. It was our fourth loss in two years of playing together.

"As you already may know, Ed Seabon, Samuel Grant and I are still together and have been since induction back in 1943. They both are doing fine and send regards to all. Ed says he will write you soon.

"At present we're working steady to get this mess over. This type of outfit must always be on the go in order to supply the troops in advanced areas. No doubt you have seen

or read about the 'duck' operations in this theater and how important they really are. The boys here are doing a good job.

"I have also contacted "Bip" Lee since receiving this paper and as yet I have not received a response. Will you put a message in your next issue telling him to drop me a few lines. Thanks in advance.

"Well I must close now and wish you all laurels of success in the future in getting this lovely paper to the boys out here. I remain just a home-town boy out here trying to make good and get back home again.

"For your information and quicker delivery of the paper, Edward Seabon and I are both sergeants and our APO number is 72. I believe it will be changed in the very near future if you dig what I mean. So long."



Here's a picture of William F. Bogan, A/B, s/s Sara Teasdale, APL, c/o FPO, San Francisco, and here's the letter in which it was enclosed. "I received today, to my surprise, your Apr. May and June issues of The Scotch Plainsman. I can't express my gratitude to you for it. It

is the first bit of mail that I have received in two months. Thank you again. As you know I am in the Merchant Marine and am now in the S. W. Pacific. I am in one of the small islands in the Okinawa group called I E Shima. This particular island was the stopping-off place of the Japanese envoys to the surrender at Manila Bay. That was a wonderful sight seeing those specially marked planes and knowing that they were really going to make peace. I have only lived in Scotch Plains two years and therefore am not acquainted with many of the fellows in the Armed Forces. Through the Scotch Plainsman I feel as though I know them.

SGT. W. R. WADE
REENLISTS IN ARMY

Reenlisting after six years Army service, S/Sgt William R. Wade, AAF, is home on a 90-day furlough from Moody Field, Ga. He will report to Fort Dix on Jan. 11, 1946, for reassignment.

The 6 foot - 7 inch sergeant believes the Army offers good opportunity to young men and plans to make it his career. A graduate of SPHS, he entered the service in September, 1939, and was stationed at Mitchell Field, L. I., for about a year before being sent to Panama, where he served 44 months.

Bob sure is a BIG guy;-- we got a kink in our neck from looking up at him as we talked. Don't know whether or not we rate a Purple Heart for that!

**BUY VICTORY
LOAN
BONDS**

