

Men in Service

Editor's Note—Men in the armed forces, and parents, are invited to send us news of the boys' whereabouts and activities. Service men, scattered throughout the country, are invited to send us news of their friends. We will address a newly-placed address in it of interest.

Soldier in Italy Is Happy to Receive the Birmingham Eccentric

Dear Editor: Just received the Birmingham paper from my folks in Birmingham. I am sure you are happy to receive it. I read it from the front to the back, and found the advertisements. It seemed like I was right back in Birmingham.

I am sure you will be glad to get back there, it's been so long; I left there in '41 and since then I have been in a list of and seen a lot of things, have been in a lot of states, from there to Africa, and now in Italy. It's very cold here, but I'm having a lot of fun.

It will be a relief to get back to the States, and not have to be afraid the next shell, bomb or bullet will come your way.

I believe if the people back home will keep up the good work and not let up for one minute until this war is over it won't last long and we will all be coming home to our families and friends.

I would like to say hello to all my friends and want them to know I'm thinking of them a lot and hope to be back with them soon. Would also like to hear from them if they care to write me, news from home really helps out a lot. I'm O. K. and going strong.

So long, Pvt. Robert L. Mills

AFTER THE MUMPS!

Word from John Kuhlman states that he has been promoted to Sergeant First Class and is attending his training at the amphibious base, Little Creek, Va. He has been transferred to Fort Pierce, Florida, where he will go to signal school after recovering from the mumps. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Kuhlman, 1008 Haynes street.

Pfc. James W. Fox, son of Dr. and Mrs. Carleton Fox, 321 Lake Park, arrived home Sunday from Ft. Belvoir, Colo. He has just graduated from the Medical Laboratory Technicians Course. He will return to Denver to await further orders March 18.

Promotion

Norman James, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman James, 887 Winton, who has recently been transferred to the base weather station at Palm Springs Air Field, Calif., has been promoted to a corporal in rank.

Instructor

Lt. Herbert E. Moore, 383 Harlan, has been assigned to instruction at the Infantry Replacement Training Center, Camp Hamlin, Tex. Lt. Moore received his commission upon graduation from Officer's Candidate School, Ft. Benning, Ga.

Sgt. Albert E. Hirsch, 1169 Lakeside Road has been ordered to the Artistic Training School, Buckley Field, Colo. He has passed Class I tests indicating he is fit for isolated duty in the Arctic, and will undergo additional training for this work, after which he expects to be assigned to overseas duty somewhere in the Arctic.

Pvt. Paul A. Jans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Jans, 112 Madison street, has been transferred to the basic recruit training at Fort Belvoir, S. C. preparatory to Officers Candidate School, Ft. Benning, Ga.

Cpl. Brook Lydon Stanford, son of Brook Lydon Stanford of Birmingham, has completed his sixth term as a mechanical engineer at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and is completing the advanced phase of the ASTP at the University; these men have left the campus and have been given special military assignments for which they are best suited.

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Let's Give Our Service Flag

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RED CROSS WAR FUND

Red-Headed Brothers Worry Army Officer

Those two Mclay boys—Wallace and Angus—recently worried an Army officer-of-the-day considerably. Wallace, a hospital apprentice, first class had gone from Corona, California, to visit his brother, Angus, with the Sealed Air at Port Huentener, California. He arrived during California's recent little rain storm. When he inquired where he could find Angus, the officer's reply was, "You're Mclay aren't you? When he received an affirmative answer, he blurted out, "Don't you know where your own..."

Capt. K. E. Turner Is Stationed In Iran

News comes by letter that Captain Kenneth E. Turner, Jr., who has been overseas for some time now stationed at an air depot somewhere in Iran where he is serving as an ordnance staff director in the Army Air Corps.

His orders are not quite as pleasant as he would like, but his work has taken him to Bagdad, Teheran and other parts of Iran, Iraq, Syria and other parts of the East.

He writes of visiting the bazaars and general market places and says the odors are not quite as pleasant or refreshing as a spring morning in Birmingham.

He enjoys his copies of the Birmingham Eccentric but says election talk and politics create a far away from home.

GOES TO NAVY V12

James Hamilton, 17, left on February 12 for duty in the Navy and the Naval Reserve. He is attending the Naval V12 program, which he has been assigned to Milligan College, Milligan, Tennessee, and that he likes the work very much. He graduated from Baldwin high school with the class of '43.

HOME ON FURLOUGH

Larry Kamin, former member of the Birmingham police force, has been spending several days with relatives here, while on a furlough from Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He has been in the service 15 months and is assigned to jeep communications.

Riding a jeep pushing it much of the time through the rain and mud a mile and a half from his field office to the mess hall at a camp somewhere in New Guinea is the frequent experience of Corp. Holt Ackerman, according to intercepting letters home to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Ackerman, 315 Pilgrim road, Corp. Ackerman was just recently advanced to that post writes that during the rainy season in his section of the world it rains about 15 hours a day. He says the powerful jeeps have to be aided by man-powered aids, especially when we are heading for our meals, the Birmingham soldier writes. Corp. Ackerman is with the Army communications.

Philanthropist's Peril

Old Lady—"Here's a penny, my poor man. How did you become so destitute?" Beggar—"I was like you, mum—a giving away yast sums to the poor and needy."

In the Path of the Nazis at Ortona



This shows a job done by the fleeing Germans on the 100-year-old St. Thomas Cathedral in Ortona, Italy, after the Canadians entered the town. Destruction of the church was one of the enemy's last acts, an attempt to impede the advancing Allies. (OWW radiophoto.)

Bowling Scores

Table with bowling scores for House League, Ladies House League, and Merchants League. Columns include team names, wins, and losses.

BUSY ARMY ORDANCE

Army Ordnance factories and depots are supplying more than five million American and Allied troops in continental United States with approximately 1,500 loads of practicing bombs and ammunition a month. Col. Adamson, commanding Ft. Wayne, Detroit, said today that substantial amounts of ammunition are being shipped directly from manufacturing and loading plants to training camps. This eliminates delays and makes it possible for ground troops and air units to obtain maximum combat training before they are transferred to invasion units overseas.

U. S. SUBS SCORE

Latest figures reveal that United States submarines, operating against Japan, have sunk 422 ships, probably sunk 36, and damaged 114. Incidentally, with the addition of new submarines, the rate of attrition against Japanese shipping will be increased.

Lover (elooping with his adored)

—How much is the fare? Taxi driver—That's all right, sir. The young lady's father settled all that.

Women in Service

Marie Housworth Has Joined Wacs

Miss Marie Housworth, 1224 Smith avenue, leaves Birmingham today for Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, to formally enter training as a WAC. She enlisted here and underwent final examination two weeks ago, receiving notice of assignment and travel orders last Sunday. The newest Birmingham enlistee in the WAC is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Housworth and has resided here 19 years. For some time she has owned and operated the White Beauty Box on South Woodward and will retain ownership of the business for the present with a new manager.

News from the Central Air Base at Peru, Indiana, tells of the promotion of Jane Fletcher to the post of A.M.M. 129 bobcats. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Fletcher, of Birmingham.

Ethel M. Stevens, American Red Cross staff assistant, a former teacher in the Birmingham school, has arrived safely in England.

SELL CONFISCATED FURS

LANSING—The annual winter sale of confiscated and forfeited furs netted the state's game protection fund \$5,604.40. The conservation department has announced. Highest prices for a single lot was received for an other which sold for \$18,000. Five hundred seventy-three coyote pelts brought \$3,442.25, 129 bobcats, \$166.40, 391 muskrats, \$317.50, 14 mink, \$188.00, 14 beaver, \$402.50, 22 raccoon, \$82.00 and 3 deer hides, \$6.25. This was the largest number of furs the department has ever had in such a sale.

ARREST SPEEDERS

Several more speeders have been recorded by the police department the past few days. Among them are Cecil Sheidert, Pontiac, driving 45 miles an hour in a 30 mile zone near the intersection of Pontiac, 50 miles in a 30 mile zone; Gerald Kiley, Detroit, 55 in a 35 mile zone; Robert E. Stillwagon, Flint, driving 60 miles an hour and Ann G. Palaian, Pontiac, driving 50 miles an hour. Norman Olson, Pontiac, was taken on a reckless driving charge.

DEATH SENTENCE

The Security and Exchange Commission refers to Congress that it has made rapid progress in enforcing the so-called death sentence clause of the holding company act of 1935. It reports that many executives now apparently recognize the practical advantages of compliance and that the end of its task is in sight.

(Want Ads Will Do It)

Advertisement for Dickinson's 1944 War Fund, featuring a large image of a man in a military uniform and the text 'Your War Cross is at his side'.

Facts Regarding the Proposed City of Birmingham Employees Retirement Plan

This series of advertisements has been authorized by the Birmingham City Commission and will be paid for from City funds to acquaint the electors of Birmingham with the proposed City Employees Retirement Plan. Facts only concerning the plan will be presented. Reprints of these advertisements will be available later on.

The Plan will be presented to the city electors at the April 3, 1944, election, and will be voted on as an amendment to the city charter. A majority vote is required for the amendment to be adopted. If carried, it will become effective as of July 1, 1944.

Copies of the proposed charter amendment will be available on March 23, 1944, at the Municipal Building and may be obtained there without charge.

The proposed City Employees Retirement Plan is a plan based on actuarial study and is set up to provide two funds from which employees can be paid a retirement allowance when they have reached a point in life after which they cannot be expected to efficiently perform their duties.

These funds are to be built up by contributions from both the City and the employee. Except for obligations of the City to recognize the service of employees rendered prior to July 1, 1944, the amortization of which is included in the estimate of cost to be shown later in this series of advertisements, the contributions of the City and of the employee would be equal. After this obligation is amortized, the contributions of the City will therefore be reduced.

Who are eligible for retirement benefits? Membership in the plan shall include all persons now or hereafter employed by the City but shall not include

(a) Employees whose services are compensated for on a contractual or fee basis

(b) Employees whose average annual compensation for 3 consecutive years is less than \$500.00 per year

(c) The Medical Director of the Plan

(d) Elective officials

To receive a non-disability pension from City-supplied sources, however, an employee must have had a minimum of 5 years of service with the City in addition, of course, to the requirement of having reached retirement age. For employees starting work for the City after the adoption of the Plan, this minimum is raised to 10 years.

Employees leaving City employ before becoming eligible for retirement under any of the above restrictions are to have returned to them the amount of their accumulated contributions plus the interest credited on same.

When the tabulation of employees was made up for submission to the actuary for his study, it was found that 84 employees were then classified as eligible for membership in the Plan.

Further facts regarding the Plan will be published next week.