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THE SERVICE MEN'S COLUMN

THUNDERBIRD MEN COMING HOME

With the 45th Infantry Division in the Assembly Area Command, France.—The 45th Infantry Division is coming home from Europe.

The division of which Corporal Harold Elliott, New Berlin, New York, is a member, already has established a brilliant record as a spearhead unit in the drive to free Europe from Nazi rule.

Now, at Camp St. Louis in the Mourmelon Sub-Area of the Assembly Area Command, it is undergoing processing for redeployment, and its members will receive 30-day furloughs in the United States before transfer to the Pacific.

Under command of Major-General Robert T. Frederick, and previously led by Major-Generals W. W. Eagles and Troy H. Middleton, the Thunderbird Division has fought through 511 of the most savage days of the European war, crushing powerful German defensive positions in four invasions, over more than 1,000 miles of the most difficult combat country in the world.

Men of the 45th charged ashore on D-Days in Sicily and at Salerno. They created, grimly held and finally broke out of the Anzio beachhead, and chased first-line Nazi troops out of Rome.

They hit the coast of southern France, drove the Germans up the Rhone and finally fought into the heart of the Nazis' "southern redoubt," overrunning Nuremberg and Munich and, in the capture of the Dachau concentration camp, receiving a direct object lesson in the reason for their fight.

They won, among them, five Congressional Medals of Honor and more than 4,500 other individual and unit decorations for valor. Corporal Elliott holds the following decorations: ETO ribbon with 1 battle star, Presidential citation, combat infantryman badge.

LeHavre, France, Aug. 20, 1945.

Dear Mother and Dad:

I am now situated at a staging area near LeHavre once again, waiting—as 2 million others are waiting—for the ship that will take me to America. The number of men in these tremendous encampments stagger the imagination—each camp is an orderly wilderness of tents, huts and temporary buildings among which thousands of men work and play and perform the necessary rituals of living. In the heart of each man there is but one desire—to return.

Unfortunately we all can not return at once—many thousands must wait for long tedious months and continue to wait long after the delay seems all but unbearable. The capitulation was soon replaced by a burning impatience and boredom, now that the prospect of battle in the Pacific has vanished and only the deadly monotony of waiting remains.

I have no definite knowledge as to when I shall return, but inasmuch as priority on transportation has been promised to high-point personnel, I hope to be returned soon. Perhaps in September. Meantime, I continue to thread my uncertain way in this labyrinth of tents and wait—the one thing I have learned well is how to wait.

Forrest (Brownell).

A Ninth Air Force Service Command Station, Roth, Germany.—When secrets of Herman Goering's once feared Luftwaffe are used by H. Fitzgerald, husband of Mrs. Isabelle Fitzgerald, New Berlin, N. Y., will have had a part in it. "Fitz" is a member of a 9th Air Force Service Command unit, the 30th Air Disarmament Squadron, whose war mission could not until recently be made public. He is aiding in the shipping of quantities of German airplane parts and equipment from this bomb-torn Nazi fighter base south of Nurnberg to Wright Field, Ohio, for intensive study and testing by Army Air Force technical experts.

The vital post-war goal of air disarmament is three-fold: to learn the secrets of Nazi aeronautical development, to utterly annihilate the warehouse stores of Luftwaffe material, salvaging such as may be useful; and to neutralize all factories which manufactured aircraft parts of any sort.

Any experimentation done by Germany is valuable, particularly that in self-propelled and radio controlled missiles, jet propulsion and rocket design, and German radar. Sgt. Fitzgerald's job is to see that each item is carefully packed and crated

Free Counsel Offered Returning Veterans

Frederic E. Sturdevant Newly Appointed Veterans' Counselor

Veterans returning to the area of which New Berlin is the community center now can avail themselves of services which will speed them on the way to normal working conditions and help them to win their goal of success in life.

"The rights of these war-trying men and women and the aid which they can obtain immediately are subjects of first importance not only to themselves but also to their home community," says Frederic E. Sturdevant, newly appointed counselor of the New York State Division of Veterans Activities. His field is Chenango County. His services are at the disposal of veterans who call on him at the Veterans' Activities headquarters in the Masonic Building, West Main street, Norwich, or who make preliminary inquiries by letter. Best results for the veterans are secured, however, by personal interview. Following such consultation, the veteran will be directed to the agency through which he or she may find the solution of their individual problems with least trouble.

The New Berlin area is even now crossing the threshold of an era filled with greater possibilities of progress than ever before experienced," says Mr. Sturdevant. "Some New Berlin men and women are returning to civilian life who will want their old jobs back. Some never had a good permanent job. About three-fifths of the local group of fighting men and women were between 18 and 24 years of age at the time of their induction. Some will want jobs; others will want to go on with their education.

"The Veterans' Affairs Division now is equipped to put applicants on the right track in accordance with their needs and qualifications. Assistance in filing claims, in using government insurance to best purpose, in securing legal aid on tax problems, medical help, emergency loans, etc., is theirs for the asking.

"It is the duty of the Veterans' Activities counselor to put the homecoming man and woman in contact with the right job or with the organization which will help them with whatever their problems are. It is the duty of all the good folks in the New Berlin area to tell the homecomers that guidance will be extended to them with the least possible 'red tape' or forms.

"The sole way of cashing in on the 'just being glad' emotion when sons and daughters return home is to lighten their burden of anxiety for the future. Their future and the New Berlin community's future is today a glorious prospect. It's up to the greater New Berlin to make the prospect come true.

"All the tremendous forces of New York State's several departments are now channeling into the Veterans' Activities Division and thence are distributed to the service bureaus throughout the county. The New Berlin area can be counted on to keep Chenango's name high on the scroll of accomplishment."

ANNOUNCE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC SERVICE IN AREA

Mr. Carl Chapin and Mr. Henry Willard announced this week that they will be associated together after the first of October to give better electrical and electronic service in this area. Mr. Willard will be in charge of refrigeration, range, motor and electrical appliance service and Mr. Chapin will be in charge of the radio and electronic department.

Both these men have had a wide electrical and electronic background and should be able to render the best in these services when they become established in their new store.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SOW YOUR LAWN SEED

According to information recently received at the Farm Bureau office in Norwich, Cornell experts are agreed that fall is the best time to sow grass seed for more beautiful lawns. Apparently, the fall seeding has several advantages over spring seeding and in this climate the seed should be in before the 15th of September. More information is available from County Agricultural Agent Arthur E. Durfee in Norwich.

for the long journey overseas.

Before his transfer into the Air Corps last February, Sgt. Fitzgerald was in the 7th Cavalary Reconnaissance, Third Army, under General Patton. He was awarded three bronze service stars for participation in the St. Lo, St. Malo and Brest campaigns. He entered the Army in January, 1943, and attended cavalry radio school at Ft. Riley, Kansas. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Brennan, live in Edmeston, New York.

DATES FIXED FOR MAILING GIFTS TO THOSE IN SERVICE

Following receipt of detailed information from Washington, D. C., it is learned that instruction for the sending of Christmas parcels to service men and women overseas during the mailing period which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, the same as last year.

The Christmas mailing problem will be complicated this year by the movement of thousands of members of the armed forces from one organization or even one contingent to another under the redeployment program. This vast transfer of military personnel will cause considerable directory service in the forwarding of parcels. For this reason special care should be given to addressing and packaging as recommended by Army, Navy and postal authorities.

Parcels may be sent during the mailing period without a specific request from a service man or woman abroad. If, however, senders have reason to believe that an addressee is to have a change of assignment before delivery may be expected, they can defer mailings until the new address is known even though this might make it necessary to have the parcels sent under the request procedure after the Christmas mailing period.

Christmas gift packages will be accepted for mailing only within the present limitations of size and weight—five pounds in weight, 15 inches in length and girth combined.

SCHOOL BUS USE IS NOW MORE LIBERAL

School bus authorities need not follow the voluntary wartime conservation practices restricting school bus operations after August 31, district Manager John J. Haykel of the Office of Defense Transportation announced today.

In a letter to authorities, having regulatory powers over school transportation, Col. J. Monroe Johnson, ODT director, also pointed out that ODT has revoked its regulations forbidding the use of charter buses for special transportation services to athletic events effective August 31. School transportation policy after August 31 will be determined entirely by state, county or school authorities.

Col. Johnson extended his thanks to school bus regulatory authorities and school bus operators for "excellent cooperation and assistance in making it possible to care for extraordinary wartime riding demands with the limited facilities available."

COUNTY AGENT WARNS OF NEW POULTRY DISEASE

County Agricultural Agent A. E. Durfee, today warned Chenango County poultrymen of the occurrence of a new poultry disease known as "New Castle Disease." He stated that up to the present time no cases have been reported in Chenango County, but urged any poultrymen having trouble in his flock to send birds to the poultry disease laboratory at Cornell for examination.

Durfee states that mortality from this disease in a flock will be extremely heavy and that no definite cure is known, thus early diagnosis is most important.

The most striking symptom of the disease is the effect on the bird's nervous system, causing it to hold its head at peculiar angles and to demonstrate other nervous reactions. A certain amount of respiratory difficulty is also present.

Governor Dewey to Speak at Picnic to Be Held at Chenango Lake Saturday

Chenango County's day with Governor Thomas E. Dewey, this Saturday, Sept. 8, will provide an attractive program of interest to all groups and all families. Sponsored by the farm organizations of the county, the basket picnic will be largely attended at the American Legion Park at Chenango Lake. Governor Dewey will speak at 2 p. m., and a reception honoring him will follow.

"We hope to have the largest basket picnic gathering in the history of the county," Charles Goodwin of Guilford, committee head, said today. A sports program at 11 a. m. will open the day, Mrs. Marion Salisbury, program director announces. George Robinson of Sherburne will direct a county horseshoe tourney. Softball play will be conducted under the supervision of Louis Dunckel of Preston. A program for women will be in charge of Palma Goodwin of Guilford and for children by Nettie Fredrickson, Chenango County associate 4-H leader.

STEEL AUTO TOP SAVES FAMILY FROM SERIOUS INJURY

A steel top on the Lincoln Zephyr going to Herman Strain of Westerlo, is all that saved his family from serious if not fatal injuries Monday morning about 10 a. m.

Mr. Strain and two children, James and Douglas, and Mrs. Wesley Ayers were enroute to the Brookfield Fair. Near the Dr. Swann farm, above Columbus Quarter they started to turn left onto the road leading to Brookfield. Just as the trailer truck going in the same direction, driven by A. P. Brown of Bainbridge, attempted to pass.

The truck struck the Lincoln pushing against and over the culvert. When the two vehicles had stopped the trailer was tipped over on top of the Strain car. All but two of the twenty cows in the truck were thrown out and wandered about in the field and nearby fields until later they were gathered. Apparently none were injured.

The Strain car was demolished from the front of both the culvert and the road and all that saved the occupants was the steel top which held without crushing from the weight of the trailer.

Also driven by Sgt. Lewis Strain following the Lincoln was a truck carrying the view of the truck from the Strain as she turned left off the main road. The truck apparently was traveling too fast to be able to stop in the short distance necessary to avoid hitting the steel.

JAMES ROWE DIES AT HIS GILBERTSVILLE HOME

James Rowe, 77, who resided three miles from Gilbertsville, died about 2 p. m. Friday, August 24, at his home after an illness of several months.

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Monday, at the Gilbertsville Baptist Church. Burial was in White Sulphur Springs.

James was the son of Butternuts, Sept. 18, 1868, he married the former Delia Elworth Aug. 18, 1890. He spent most of his life in the town of Butternuts, and was known as a successful farmer.

Surviving are the widow, five daughters and three sons, James Jr., Mr. Harry Turner, Mrs. Leon Dixon, Mrs. Harry Wilson and Mrs. Arthur Mason, all of Gilbertsville, Mrs. Ed. Dason of Morris, Benjamin and Harold of New Berlin.

SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT CONTINUES IN EFFECT

The war may be over, but hang on to those draft cards, brother, or you'll be sorry. Selective Service announced last week.

Selective Service officials have been handing out this advice to their "clients" since hearing reports of many celebrants tearing up their draft cards upon hearing the news of the Jap surrender.

While no statement has been issued by national or state officials, registrants are reminded that "regulations still are in effect."

The regulations require every registrant to have in his possession a registration and latest classification card. Failure to possess these cards is a violation of the Selective Service law.

As long as the Selective Service law is in force, officials say, the requirements will stand "as is."

ANSCO MAY ERECT LARGE CAMERA PLANT NEAR AFTON

Anso, Binghamton's biggest single industrial firm, is surveying a 223-acre company owned site near Afton to determine the possibility of plant construction there.

The film and camera firm has owned the Afton property for many years.

AUCTION

East Side Unadilla River, opposite White Store, Sept. 8, at 12:30. Seventeen cows, mostly fall; 4 heifers; pair gray horses, wt. 3200; 2 sets heavy double harness, 1 hay rope, horse fork, hay car.

Communities Urged to Mark for Air Traffic

State Department Inaugurates Campaign to Aid Aviators

What's your air address? Is your community air marked? Can the aerial tourist identify your community?

These questions are being asked local communities by Leslie A. Bryan, director of the Bureau of Aviation of the New York State Department of Commerce in a statewide volunteer air marking campaign.

"Air traffic is beginning to break all records," Commerce Commissioner M. P. Catherwood pointed out, "and it is, therefore, important that every community in New York State be adequately identified from the air by the standard federal-state markings. A properly air marked community may save lives."

More than 900 communities have received letters asking their cooperation in marking their community for air identification.

"To best identify your community from the air," Mr. Bryan wrote community officials, "the name of the municipality and its air address should be displayed on the most prominent roof in the area."

Mr. Bryan stressed that the air marker is one of the simplest and least expensive aids to aviation and is also one of the most effective and necessary, particularly for the private or non-scheduled flyer. The danger of becoming lost, he said, is perhaps the chief hazard in "contact flying." Mr. Bryan declared that this hazard is considerably lessened when the flyer can ascertain his exact whereabouts by looking down and reading a sign as he passes over a town or city.

Information concerning the proper way to mark a community in order to make it an effective aid to air navigation is contained in an instruction sheet which will be provided interested communities. A questionnaire, when filled out and returned to the Bureau of Aviation, will bring an exact layout for air marking together with detailed specifications from the bureau's airport engineer, William E. Cullinan Jr.

SIDNEY GETS NEW SODIUM VAPOR LIGHTS

New sodium vapor lights at the north end of the river bridge into Sidney have been turned on. This is the culmination of 18 months of effort on the part of Supervisor Earl Winger of the Town of Unadilla to get the state to light this intersection.

This installation is made up of five lights spaced so that the entire area is completely illuminated. This is the second place in the state where the cost of installation and maintenance is carried entirely by the New York State Department of Works.

The traffic hazard at the intersection is reduced, according to police.

\$2,200 SOUGHT FOR DAMAGES TO W. WINFIELD SCHOOL BUS

An action to recover \$2,200 alleged damages to a school bus of the West Winfield Central School has been brought by that district against Vincent Schoonmaker and Gerald Davis, both of West Winfield.

The suit is based on an accident which occurred January 26, when a truck owned by Schoonmaker and driven by Davis forced the bus into a ditch and struck it, it is alleged.

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John Deere G. P. tractor, good condition; John Deere dump rake, John Deere lumber wagon, John Deere corn harvester, horse drawn beater, John Deere horse, combination pump and motor, 3 reels barbed wire, electric fence, 6 milk cans, 3 pails, strainer; wagon on rubber, John Deere tractor harrow, riding cultivator, 2 walking plows, water cultivator, 2 John Deere heavy duty hay loader, McD. mower on rubber in all, 14-in. Papee hay chopper, 2 disc harrows, 2 walking cultivators, Empire milker, double unit pump, sterilizer for 2 double units, electric clippers, 75-ft Goodyear belt, neck-yokes, whiffletrees, forks, shovels, usual small tools.

Terms cash - Will Evans, Auctioneer. ROBERT CAIRNS, Owner.

REV. WILLIAM J. VINCENT KILLED BY EMPIRE EXPRESS

The Rev. William J. Vincent, aged 55, 189 Main street, Whitesboro, was killed instantly Thursday, August 23, about 4:30 o'clock when struck by the eastbound Advanced Empire State Express at the Harry Wester farm crossing in Whitesboro. Portions of his body were strewn along the track for some distance and identification was not established until several hours later.

He was well known in New Berlin, having acted as supply minister on a number of occasions at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Active rector of St. Peter's Church, Oriskany, and St. Mark's Church, Clark's Mills, Mr. Vincent previously had served as secretary of the Episcopal diocese for a period after more than ten years as rector of St. James' Church, Whitesboro.

Mr. Vincent, an ardent victory gardener, had donated work clothes to weed his plot on the Wester farm. Three packages of radish seed, three clips of matches and a tobacco pouch were all that was found in his clothing.

Friends believe that, while his garden was south of the tracks, Mr. Vincent had stepped to the adjacent farm crossing and may have intended visiting the extensive bean planted acreage north of the main line of the New York Central.

The fireman of an express passenger train, No. 90, spotted parts of the dismembered body beside the tracks and the train was stopped at Whitesboro station to notify authorities.

Police Chief Frank Tobin Jr., New York Central officials and Coroner Cox conducted an investigation. The accident attracted a number of Whitesboro residents to the scene, including two of Mr. Vincent's sons, recently discharged from the Army—James Dimbleby, funeral director, took the body to his parlors where considerable difficulty was experienced in establishing identification. Dimbleby first noted resemblance to the rector and neighbors agreed with him, but his two sons were slow in making final determination. The body was later taken in charge by Lankton, Townsend and Cronk.

A memorial requiem service for clergymen was held on Monday morning at 10 o'clock and prayer services for the immediate family were held at 10:40 o'clock at the Lankton, Townsend and Cronk Funeral Home. Burial services were held at Grace Church at 11 o'clock. Interment was made at Crown Hill Memorial Park.

HOUSEHOLD COMMODITIES WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE

Many important household commodities, among them electric ranges and washing machines, will be on the market by the year's end, according to a survey of reconversion orders just completed by the War Production Board and local spokesmen for the electrical industry.

Here is the production picture as presented by the WPB and spokesmen of the electrical industry:

Electric Ranges: By December ranges will be in retail stores in limited supply and no statement of necessity will be required to buy available units. Prospects are that the national pre-war production rate may be reached by Jan. 1. Production during the closing months of this year will be about 145,000.

Electric Washing Machines: By January the units should be on the market in some quantity and they will not be rationed. Probable manufacture of 500,000 machines on a national scale is predicted during the last quarter of this year. The current demand is estimated at 6,000,000 units.

Electric Refrigerators: Although the units may be produced at unlimited rate, the WPB probably will retain distribution controls until mid-October. National production during the fourth quarter is expected to reach 700,000 units with the demand estimated at 6,000,000.

Radios: "Some" by the first of the year, perhaps by Christmas.

Electric Irons: "Quite a few" now available on the market. While the supply may be limited for some time, it is expected to improve sooner than that of many other appliances.

Toasters, Waffle Irons, etc.: Improved supply within two to four months, but a limited number of units only for perhaps six months.

Electric Fans: Fairly adequate supplies should be on sale by December. National production during the fourth quarter will be about 100,000.

Designs and Models: For months virtually all appliances will be of pre-war design because of the time required by manufacturers for retooling.

The over-all picture will be substantially improved in 1946, although it is doubtful if everyone who needs electrical equipment of this kind will be able to get it next year.



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