

Aviation Mechanic



Pvt. Edward Lee Brackett wrote us on Dec. 29th that he has finished Aviation Mechanics School and is now waiting to be transferred. He said that Mississippi is still seeing lots of sunshine but that he would like some snow for a change. Edward was Fillerman Helper at Ecusta.

BAND NOTES

To start the new year right our new constitution, drawn up by Lita Steppe and Marie Sprinkle, was voted on and adopted by the band on Jan. 19th. New officers will be elected the third week in February at which time we will also mark the FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the Ecusta Band.

It hardly seems possible that the band has been in operation for a whole year. Last February when the first rehearsals took place, it was, to put it mildly, a discouraging and disheartening affair. But due to the dogged determination and unswerving efforts of Director John Eversman and many of the original band members, the band has somehow emerged from the swaddling clothes stage.

Of course, we have had to cope with the problem of replacing many of our members who are now in military service. Many who have indicated a desire to join the band are reluctant to do so because they are unable to play but perhaps those who do not know how to play an instrument are unaware of the fact that Mr. Eversman conducts two additional "beginner" bands and gives individual lessons in the cafeteria on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of each week. He may be contacted there on these afternoons for further information. Drop in for a chat with John and he'll be glad to help you in any way he can.

Girls, you're carrying on for the men at "the front." Here's an opportunity for you to come to the fore and take over for our boys. Besides, you don't know how much personal satisfaction it will give you to play an instrument and be able to take part in an active and growing musical organization.

Stitching Gab

Mae O. and Margaret P. have been out due to illness . . . Jo C. is quite a little operator since Louise O. went to the notching . . . William Nicholson and John Smith are new mechanics in the Stitching . . . Helen and Margaret Crawford are new Packers—and are no relation either! . . . Sylvia M., according to Jimmie D., just loves to act . . . We all wonder if Dot Gray still likes music and tennis. Let's change the subject. Dot is blushing . . . Evelyn, how is the sailor in Puerto Rico? . . . Who doesn't like to work with Myrtle? Something fascinating around her machine . . . Maye W. and Sallie J. have a whispering conference every day. Could you tell us about it girls? . . . Betsy A. is bashful but she is good at con-

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Can't Publish All "Letters Home"

So many letters have been received from the boys in service expressing thanks for their Christmas gifts and their good wishes for Ecusta and fellow workers that it is not possible to quote them in their entirety in our limited Echo space.

We trust it will be understood by our service men that no slight is intended and no less appreciation indicated in not publishing letters which are confined to thanks and good wishes. In order that Echo readers may not miss news of the boys in service, in some cases we are publishing parts of letters which are informative or have special messages.

All of the letters received from our boys are greatly appreciated, not only for their warm expressions but for the mere fact that the writers take time out from their very full military schedules to write to us. We wish we could quote all of them word for word.

—THE EDITOR

LETTERS HOME:

November 8, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

I remember you told me to write and let you and the Echo know where I was stationed. I am now in Aberdeen, Maryland.

I sure would be glad to hear from the plant and receive a copy of the Echo.

With best regards,

Paul Perry (Private)

December 25, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,

Through you, I would like to thank the Ecusta Paper Corporation for this nice box of stationery. I received it about a week ago. I needed it very much. Writing letters from here is rather difficult so I don't write very many.

How is everything at the mill? I used to get the Echo but since my last transfer I have not received it any more. If it is possible I would like to have it sent to me occasionally so as to keep up with my friends who are still there.

Since leaving your employment I have traveled quite a lot and achieved knowledge that will be of great benefit to me in the future. I am connected with the Quartermaster Department. At the end of a three months' training period last spring I was transferred into this group. At the present time I am a sergeant. I like this work fine, but I will be glad when this is all over and I can return to civilian life again. It is hard to say when that will be.

I will close now and thanks again for remembering me at Christmas time.

With my regards,

JAMES T. WILLIAMS

Jan. 2, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,

At last I will get around to writing. I have been busy and have put off writing. I like the army fine but all the same I would enjoy being back at dear old Ecusta. I hope some day to be back with all my friends there. At the present time Uncle Sam needs me though. I will do my part to help preserve the freedom that we enjoy.

Sincerely yours,

WARREN R. ALEXANDER

Jan. 3, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,

Just a few lines. I am now stationed at the Great Lakes Training station. I left home on Christmas day. I like the navy life fine but I do miss working at the plant. It's a swell place to work, I think.

I would appreciate getting the Echo if you are interested in sending it.

A friend,

HERSHEL GALLOWAY

Jan. 2, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,

I got my copy of the Echo yesterday. It was just like getting a bag full of letters from home.

I am still doing fine and liking the army better as I go along.

I am just waiting for the next Echo.

As ever,

JOHN B. REID

Jan. 2, 1943

Dear Mr. Straus,

Thelma and I were very disappointed when we were unable to say hello over the holidays, but both of us sincerely hope that your holidays were as enjoyable as ours. Everybody was exceedingly nice to Thelma and me and we shall never forget it.

I want to thank you and Ecusta Paper Corporation for the very nice package received just before leaving for home. Here's hoping that each and every present reached its destination.

Good luck to you and Ecusta.

Yours truly,

JACK ALEXANDER

Jan. 2, 1943

Gentlemen:

It is with pleasure that I begin the new year by completing some of my unfinished 1942 business—that is, answering letters and at the same time thanking you for remembering me with the carton of cigarettes at Christmas. In sending Camels you sent my favorite brand, in fact the only kind that I have smoked since 1933.

The Echo is still following me around, from Ft. Belvoir to Wilson, N. C., and then back to Ft. Belvoir. It now finds me at Camp Claiborne, La. It is always interesting to read about those whom I formally worked with and to learn that things are going along so well at the plant. I only hope that the new year will continue to bring the same success to all of you.

I will have to close now, and with best wishes I remain,

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR R. COOKE, JR.

Taking Course



Charles J. Siniard, A. S. is taking an 18 months' course in 5 months. He is going to school 8 hours each day for six days each week and says what he learned in Ecusta Machine Shop and in Dr. Harrison's Math class really helps. Clyde McCoy is station there and entertains them with "Sugar Blues."

In The Physical Testing Lab

We of the Physical Testing Lab wish to express our appreciation to our president for the nice Christmas present which we received. We not only appreciate the gift but the thought which prompted the giving. The fact that Mr. Straus worked so persistently to give us the additional bonus at New Year's shows his thoughtfulness toward his employees and makes us resolve that in this new year we shall prove our faithfulness and cooperation to him and to the job we are to do. Thank you, Mr. Straus . . . Had a number of cards from our Lab boys in the service at Christmas. 'Twas good to hear from them . . . Ed Hill writes that he is to be a pilot when he has finished his basic training. At least that's his classification at Fort Bragg. Of course, we are betting on his being the best pilot in his group . . . Nice little write-up about Rupert Cliff in the class book from the Chicago School of Aircraft Instruments. Another Lab boy seems to be doing all right for Uncle Sam. Capt. Tom Ramsey is back at Edgewood Arsenal now we hear. Maybe we'll be calling him General or something—O. K. Gen. Tom, sounds fine doesn't it? Troy Bryan writes us from Florida. An all right sailor too . . . And on the home front "among the skirts"—What young lady tried to bribe the policeman at the gate? When he asks for her pass card she holds out a dime. Did it work, Ruby? . . . Has anyone seen a pair of wings around town? Betcha they belong to someone on "" shift—did I hear you say something, Thelma? . . . Calling all bowlers! Our team needs all the help you can give. Watch for the announcement and if you bowl, be there! If you can't bowl how about a cheering section? We aren't doing so badly and we can all help . . . Just a few pants left in the lab. Boy, it's almost a woman's world, and we hear we'll lose another soon. Right, Randall? Good luck, we're betting on you . . . and speaking of changes, there are plenty in the lab now with Bob at the Chem. Lab too and Jake

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CURIOSITY

And now we hear about the street car motorman who, after clanging his bell irately behind an obstinate coal truck for two blocks, finally managed to get up alongside the driver, leaned out his window, and just looked. The truck driver brazenly asked, "Well?" Whereupon the motorman said, "I know what you are. I just want to see what you look like."