



**Finishing Touches C-SHIFT**

We all failed to report the behavior and condition of the members of our Department in the December issue of the Echo but our intentions were good. The neglected report was evidently due to the fact that we were too busy with Christmas shopping. Forgive us for we shall try to atone in the future . . . From what Bobbie Brown says "women still maintain the much loved privilege of changing their minds." She was going to join the WAAC's but that beautiful diamond she's wearing was too attractive to resist and so was the man so she is engaged to another man and it isn't Uncle Sam . . . We did suffer the loss of one of our girls though. Bessie Kimsey just left to be a WAAC last week. She was wearing one of those G. I. haircuts before she went away . . . Cecil Smith really goes for things that are loud. Not long ago it was that sweet smelling lotion that caused so much attraction and this time he came in with some socks on that were so loud we couldn't hear the sliiter motors. He said he got them for Christmas but someone made a grave mistake for they should have given him a carton of chewing gum because he is still begging for gum . . . Bobbie Greene has recently adopted as her theme song "I got the neck of a chicken" and for what reason we don't know . . . So glad to have Charles McGraw working on our shift. He was formerly with the U. S. Navy. . . . Ask Dot Sellers what kind of an animal she killed the other day when she went hunting . . . We extend to Charles Colwell our best wishes for a rapid recovery . . . So glad to have Freda Ray back on our shift. We also welcome Estelle Ward from Hendersonville.

**LETTERS HOME:**

December 12, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells,  
Will write you a few lines to say hello. I would have written sooner but I have been very busy. I like army life just fine and am taking it as it comes, but as you probably know I would rather be back at Ecusta with the boys. I certainly do enjoy the Echo as it is about all I read in my spare time and I really love to read! I just received my Christmas present and surely do appreciate it. Tell all the boys hello and would love to be back working with them and Mr. Rhodes.

Sincerely,  
JOHN C. SPROUSE

December 14, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells,  
At last I have an address that I will keep long enough to allow me to write and expect an answer before I change again. While at the Lakes in Illinois I received a copy of the Echo. I liked the paper very much as it is well loved by all the employees and former employees of Ecusta. It carries much more news than a letter. When I was in North Carolina on leave a few weeks ago I had a most enjoyable visit at Ecusta. I will never forget it as everyone seemed so friendly to me.

Sincerely,  
TED BRYAN

December 20, 1942

Dear Mr. Straus:  
I wish to express my appreciation for the Christmas gift I received from the company. Just to know that our people are thinking about us gives us a lift to go ahead and finish this job we are here to do. We all hope to be back home soon and resume our normal way of living that rightly belongs to every American. Thanks for your efforts to keep our morale high.

Sincerely,  
HOUSTON KITCHIN

Fort Benning, Ga.

Ecusta Paper Corporation  
Pisgah Forest, N. C.

Dear Sir:  
I really don't know how I should start this letter. First I'll say I had planned on writing and telling you all about my army life. So now I gotta write and thank you for the nice package I received only a few minutes ago. It was greatly appreciated and that was the nicest gift you could have given me. As you know, soldiers just write, write, write and of course, they also hope, hope, hope for answers as well as for the war to end. I am in the Armored Division here and like it very much. I have been out today driving a jeep—you know, these little jitterburg cars, the kind the girls go crazy over. Not these Georgia girls, of course, but those Ecusta and Champagne "beauties." I want a jeep and a girl from Ecusta when the war is over.

There is a favor I must ask. I'd like to hear from a lot of you swell people and I also would appreciate the ECHO. I sure have missed it and the good people there. I hope to be home in a month or so and visit you. I must stop now. I'll say thanks again, and write to me anytime.

Sincerely,  
MITCHELL TAYLOR

January 3, 1943

To Ecusta Paper Corporation  
Pisgah Forest, N. C.

How to express words of appreciation I don't know, for the nice box of stationery. Nothing could be appreciated any more by the men in service. It would be used more if they had time, light, and a place to write. When the Charge of Quarters comes through and says "lights out" lights go off whether you're done writing or not. But it is a good reminder to make the men try to snatch a few minutes and write back to Ecusta.

For that is a company for any man to appreciate having his name on their payroll before entering the service. And here is hoping I can rejoin Ecusta in the near future.

A true friend to Ecusta and its employees, just plain old

JOHN W. (DRAKE) (Private, 1st Cl.)

December 10, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells,

I am very sorry I haven't written sooner but I have been so busy. I have been receiving the Echo and enjoy it very much. The most of all I like the pictures and clippings of the boys in service. I have a hobby of saving these for the most of them I know and worked with.

The Christmas present was very nice. If most of the boys are like myself they will find the stationery is what they need most.

Tell everybody hello for me.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS F. COOPER

November 18, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

I got your letter and was I glad to hear from you! The Army is not so bad after all. I have been made M. P. Will write a letter soon.

Tell everyone Hello.

Thanks for the letter, and hoping to hear from you again.

Very truly yours,

"Butch" (Harry W. Clayton—Private)

**BE THE BEST**

If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,  
Be a shrub in the valley—but be  
The best little shrub on the side of the hill.  
Be a brush if you can't be a tree.  
If you can't be a brush be a bit of the grass,  
Some highway to happier make;  
If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass  
But the liveliest bass in the lake  
We can't all be captains—some must be crew,  
There's something for all of us here;  
There's big work to do and there's lesser too,  
And the task we must do is the near.  
If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail,  
If you can't be the sun, be a star;  
It isn't by size that you win or you fail,  
Be the best of whatever you are.