

Stolen Humor...

A little humor can go a long way, but when said humor is about the Army or Navy those of us in the service seem to enjoy it even more. A clipped item from the Santa Fe Magazine tells of the sad plight of Jasper Higgs. Writing to his father he had this to say:

"Dear Pa: If you want me to come back to the farm when Uncle Sam says he don't need me any more—here's what you'd better do. Buy two of the meanest mules you can find. Name one of them 'Corporal' and the other 'Sergeant.' I'll be glad to spend the rest of my life just telling them two jackasses why I made a mistake when I didn't join the Navy instead of falling for this soldier stuff. Your loving son, Private (no class),
Jasper Higgs."

Then there's an item from the Greensboro, N. C., News. To quote again:

"In Leesville, La., a Marine Corps sergeant saw a sign on a night club saying 'For Officers and Civilians Only'. He went in but the club refused to serve him. He went back, got a sound truck, returned, played 'From the Halls of Montezuma' 110 times so that it could be heard a mile and a half away, read the constitution and the bill of rights—and found that he was the only customer left. We think he had the situation well in hand. Snobbery has no rightful place in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps. There is no use to try to set up a spurious barrier of social inequality between officers and enlisted men off duty. Everybody knows it is a fake and that not all the gentlemen are to be found among the officers..."

Better still is the story about the sergeant at Ft. Dix who ordered all college graduates under him to spend the rest of the day picking up cigarette butts, and all the high school graduates to pick up match sticks. "Now the rest of you guys," said the sergeant, turning to those who were left, "I want you to watch those educated fellows and find out how they do it."

Boston's favorite tale of woe at the present is about George Lyon, conductor on a Boston & Maine train.

"Madam," he said as he looked doubtfully at a boy who was traveling half fare with his mother, "are you sure this boy is not over 12 years old?"

"I certainly am," the woman replied.

"Well, he looks at least 15 to me."
"Can I help it if he worries about the war?" the woman snapped.

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Measured in pounds of flesh, probably no cadet made greater sacrifice to get into the V-5 program than RUFUS S. TUCKER, II, 13th Battalion member from Bethlehem, Pa. Tucker shed 60 pounds in his determined effort to become a naval aviation cadet...

If officers on Sunday morning Captain's inspection should encounter difficulty in locating the entrance to Room 305 Lewis, or any of the regular furnishings within the room, they should not fear for failing eyesight. One of the occupants, skilled in the art of protective concealment, is CADET HAROLD G. LEAVER (12th Battalion), from Cranston, R. I., who attended the Rhode Island School of Design for three years before joining the Navy, taking the course in complete camouflage offered there...

CADET EDWIN H. BRADBURY (11th Battalion), of Brewer, Me., tasted both Army and Marine life before transferring to naval aviation. Bradbury has served two years with the U. S. Army and eight months with the U. S. Marines. One of his brothers is a first lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps, while another is an apprentice seaman in the Navy... CADET VICTOR J. ZARO (10th Battalion), W. Englewood, N. J., was rated the "most valuable wrestler" for three years at Columbia College, New York, and was elected captain of the school's mat squad...

Previous experience may prove quite useful to CADET EDWARD A. TEED (11th Battalion), of East Boston, Mass., should he get lost in one of the many jungles dotting the world's battle areas. Natural history study is his hobby, and he was formerly employed as animal keeper in a zoo... CADET ROBERT F. THOMPSON (12th Battalion), of Sharon, Pa., has had 10 months of active duty in the Navy, specializing in chemical warfare work...

Captain of the varsity football team at the University of Chicago just before the grid sport was discontinued at that Big Ten school was LEWIS B. HAMITY, of Chicago, Ill., now a member of the 12th Battalion at Chapel Hill. Hamity had the unusual honor of serving as captain of his high school football team for two years, and he lettered three times in football at the U. of C. before finishing there in 1939... CADET JOHN H. FREEMYER (13th Battalion), of Utica, N. Y., speaks German, Spanish and French. He was formerly employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D. C... CADET RICHARD J. PEGGS (10th Bat-

talion), of Canton, N. Y., taught school last year at Dannemora High School, Dannemora, N. Y... CADET KARL J. ORCUTT (10th Battalion), of Portland, Ore., worked as a draftsman in the engineering department of the Kaiser shipbuilding company, Vancouver, Wash., before enlisting in the Navy...

No novice with the violin is CADET EUGENE V. ERSKINE (12th Battalion), of Brooklyn, N. Y., who once fiddled under the direction of Walter Damrosch at a concert in Madison Square Garden. A graduate of Johns Hopkins University in June, 1941, Erskine has served as a naval inspector at Glenn L. Martin Co., Baltimore, Md...

The N & R course should be proving a soft touch to CADET WILLIAM B. WALSH (12th Battalion), of New Britain, Conn., who was formerly an aircraft spotter at Post 6A in New Britain.

Production Progress

The remarkable progress being made on the production front was recently summarized as follows by Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of staff to President Roosevelt:

The U. S. is building submarines in a little more than one year, twice as fast as before the war; aircraft carriers are being built in 17 months; battleships that used to require five years are being completed in about three; modern destroyers are built in six-months, one-third of the time formerly required. Aircraft carriers, large and small, escort vessels, landing boats and other kinds of naval units are about to be built "with a timing almost equal to the pre-war mass production of motor cars," Admiral Leahy said.

Comdr. Kessing Bids All Hands Good-Bye At Regimental Review in Kenan Stadium



FORMER COMMANDING OFFICER of the station, Comdr. O. O. Kessing is shown at the speakers' stand bidding farewell to Pre-Flight personnel, university officials, townspeople and friends gathered to honor him at special ceremonies held in Kenan Stadium, Nov. 26. As reported in the CLOUDBUSTER last week, Comdr. Kessing, who was transferred to sea duty in the Pacific, thanked Chapel Hill citizens, university officials and students for their "excellent cooperation" with the Pre-Flight School, and urged officers, cadets, and crew to "keep on giving your best to the service and we'll win this war like we've won all those in past history." Shown seated behind Comdr. Kessing, from left to right, are Capt. W. S. Popham, head of the local NROTC, Comdr. Tom Hamilton, director of the naval aviation physical fitness program, and Comdr. John P. Graff, commanding officer of the Pre-Flight School.

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