



Hi-Ya Fellers:

As we gather our odds n' ends, that go into the making of the monthly scrap-book, we call the HOOVER RAIL, we are keenly aware of the many things we should be thankful for, but to the people of Lawndale, the most gratifying news, since our last issue were the announcements by the War Department that Nathan Floyd, "Whitey" McNeilly, and Newt Neely, previously listed as missing in the North African Campaign, are now reported as prisoners of War and held in German prison camps, for the duration. Every since we first received the news, that these boys were missing in action, we have steadfastly believed, that somehow, someway, we all would be re-united again, and this latest message from the War Department confirms our faith, and we are still trusting that a similar message will soon be received about Lt. Robert Martin.

We realize that being a prisoner of war in any country is far from being a funny situation, but to describe my personal feelings, there's an old story, in fact, so old, it has whiskers, and all of you have heard it before - about the big bully, who wanted to

pick a fight with the little fellow, and tried to scare him, by informing him, that he intended to eat him up - and the little fellow, sarcastically replied, "That, if and when you do, you will have more brains in your belly than you do in your head." This story brings out my point, that our enemies now have much better soldiers in their prison camps, than they do in their marching armies. I'd like to go on record as saying, that our boys in uniform are not the only ones, who should be cited for bravery. I have reference to all Mothers, back home, but in particular, "Whitey's" Mother, Mrs. Julia McNeilly, who, several Sundays ago, attended a programme at our little Community Church, at which time, all our boys, who are members of this Church, were honored, by having their Mothers, pay tribute to their Sons, by placing a Star on our Service Flag. When Mrs. McNeilly's name was called, she marched forward, with unfaltering step, and, with her head held high, and, altho' we know her heart was aching, there was no outward show of emotion, other than extreme pride. That, my lads, is a thing we call COURAGE, and as long as we have Mothers like this, so typical of our pioneer ancestors, who founded this free Country - all the Axis Dictators, with their fanatical ideas, from now until the end of time, can NEVER change our American way of life.

In this issue, we'd like to call your attention to an article, written especially for the Hoover Rail, by none other than REX STOUT, one of America's most outstanding Radio Personalities. We are indeed proud that he thus honored our little paper. Knowing the great demands that are made upon Mr. Stout's time, we doubly appreciate the valued consideration he has shown us.

In closing, let us remind you again of the necessity of writing letters, that we may publish, as, after all, they are the "MAIN ARTERY" in the life of the Hoover Rail.

Until next time, GOOD LUCK, GOOD FIGHTING, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Sincerely,

Jin Osborne