

PAULINE CARPENTER:-- "I wish Santa would leave a gorgeous fur-coat and a ticket to Syracuse, N. Y. in my stocking. My brother, Dan Gold is in the Air Corps at Syracuse University."

FORREST WALKER:-- "Just a note to wish y u all the best Christmas possible and a Happy New Year. I have been all pepped up over what I hope Santa Claus brings me for Christmas, but I think Dick Cloninger is more excited than any of us. He told me the other day that he was going to hang up his big boot sox and write Santa Claus to put a "Pin-up Girl" in them for Christmas. If I knew that Santy would do that I'd get J.T. Pearson to crawl up under the floor with me. (As you all know thats J.T.'s hiding place when he's had too much "Little Man Ale") and see what excuse Dick gives his wife, so I could have Santa bring me one next year."

PEARLE CARPENTER:-- "The nicest X'Mas present I want Santa to bring me most of all is Jim Southard in a brand new car with four new tires, tank full of gas and nothing to do but spend 26 hours each day with him -- However I would be satisfied just to see him in a model "T" Ford with no tires and just enough gas to get to my house. Would be pleased if Santa would leave a Thousand-dollar War Bond in my sock -- Would like to know before hand so I could have all the holes sewed up."

TAFT S. PHITNAM:-- "Since we're either too young or too old, I'd like for St. Nick to be told,

Our girls need you boys over here, especially at this time of year. Since coal and furs are both rationed, and a dozen petticoats old fashioned. I wonder if Santa could deliver, a few arms to shut out the shiver."

NED WILLIAMS:-- "I don't know what to ask for, for myself so I'll just ask a few things for the boys in service. How about bringing all of them a newly commisioned second Lieutenant to shine their shoes, make their bunks, mop, sweep, and do K. P. and also keep their clothes cleaned and buttons shined. And please throw in one "top kick" that they can "cuss" and swear at, and Santa please bring all the Privates a pair of loaded dice so they can take the Sergeants pay every month."

SAM JEFFERS:-- "When Jim approached me today and asked me to write you boys a few lines I was just about as frightened as I was the day I became a father and speaking of fright makes me remember the day Fronie and I were married. We went over to Squire Hoyle's and after the vows were spoken. I ran my hand into my pocket to get the \$3.00 fee, I was so nervous I set off a whole box of matches. I went home minus my pants. Some of you boys no doubt remember the time I was sitting in an old fashioned privy when along came a big puff of wind and there I was -- no pants again. I suppose I came into the world frightened and I imagine I'll leave it the same way. I spend most of spare time on the old loafers bench playing checkers. I can't say I am the champ, but I can say I win my share of the games. I am indeed glad to have the privilege of saying "Hello" to you boys thru the Hoover Rail. Heres wishing you the best of luck and hoping the New Year will bring us closer together."

J. B. BRACKETT:-- "Guess you saw in the last Hoover Rail where Jim Osborne and myself were "Official Recruiters" for the N. C. State Guards. Well we don't have that title really, but we have been doing a little talking, in fact we are getting pretty good at it for our latest recruit is Jerry Caldwell. Jerry as you know has recently been discharged from the Army and we were tickled to get him in the company with us. You can emagine how our squad from Lawndale looks with Jerry and Earl Eskridge, those long legged fellows, and Shannon Blanton, Jim and myself following them and short legged Maurice Bowman and Ben Wease bringing up the rear, but sericusly speaking we do have a good company of State Guards. We have been rated one of the two Superior Companies in the State. I hope to give you some good jokes on these recruits in a later issue, as they are just getting started in their training and now for a little conversation that could be taking place between Hitler and Tojo:

(Continued on next page)