

**Finds Army Life Tough**



**JIMMY SLEDGE** paid Ecusta a visit recently while he was home on furlough. He said the army life is pretty tough but he looks fine so it must agree with him. Before leaving for the army in April of '42 Jimmy was a Blender in the Refining Room. He was first stationed at Sheppard Field, Texas before being transferred to Phoenix, Arizona, where he is a parachute rigger.

**BAND NOTES**

The past few days and weeks have been busy ones for the Ecusta band. We played for another Bond Rally on Saturday, November 28th, in front of the Courthouse. That day is down in our book as one of the chilliest we have endured this Fall. Many of us were tempted to invest our money in long-handled red flannels rather than bonds. At any rate we were glad to help in the cause and hope the Rally was a success.

The band committee met and passed a resolution that due to weather conditions the Ecusta Band will accept no more invitations to play outdoor concerts until Spring.

December 7th, day of infamy in modern history, was commemorated by a program at the Courthouse. We were invited to participate, and played a number of patriotic songs during the evening, featuring "Remember Pearl Harbor."

Mary Rice Robinson, better known to us as "Ricie," has forsaken the French Horn, and us, for the WAVES. She has the distinction of being the first girl from Ecusta to be accepted in this branch of the service. More power to you "Ricie." We'll be expecting to hear from you very soon. Of course those inoculations may cause your arm to be sore for a few days, but that doesn't entitle you to "Writer's Cramp." We hope you persuaded Marie to take over on the Horn and carry on for you.

The band and women's chorus have been diligently rehearsing several special arrangements of Christmas carols, and our nights of rehearsal have been anything but "Holy," "Peaceful," or "Silent." However, we hope we have attained a more perfect blend of harmony, rhythm and expression, and that our short carol programs this week resemble what Santa ordered for the all-Ecusta meetings in the cafeteria.

May the joys of the Christmas Season be yours, and may the New Year bring peace, success, and happiness.

**American Influence**

"What did you learn at school today?"

"We learned to say, 'Yes, sir' and 'Yes, Ma'am.'"

"Ah, that's very important, isn't it?"

"You said it, baby!"

**European Humor**

Said the Dutchman to his wife, as they finished dinner: "Is there, my dear, anything left in the bottom of the teapot for me to smoke?"

**LETTERS HOME:**

December 3, 1942

Dear Mr. Straus:

Today I received your letter and also a copy of the Echo. I enjoyed them very much. It is always good to hear from home and to read about Ecusta and all the employees.

Since you last heard from me I have changed camps and I'm also in another state. I'm now stationed at Oxoid Field, Albuquerque, New Mexico. It is called the "Land of Enchantment." I came here with several of my buddies from Camp Barkley, Texas. The climate is ideal here. The days are warm and the nights are cool. We have a beautiful range of mountains. The altitude here at camp is about 5,400 feet and the mountains are about 10,000 or 11,000 feet. They are something to see. The peaks have had snow on them the last few days.

This is known as an "Air Depot Training Station." Kirtland Field, the air base, joins this one. Planes fly overhead day and night.

I'm working in the Personnel Office and I like my work fine. We have some nice officers and men here.

I would like very much to visit Ecusta at Christmas but that will be impossible so to you Mr. Straus, and all the employees of Ecusta, I wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Fred L. Jordan (Private)

December 7, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

Just a short letter to let you know that I still receive the Echo and wish it was a weekly instead of a monthly paper. It is a real pleasure to read and keep up with the news of the plant.

A year ago today I was on the first shift when the news came over the radio of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Can't say that I have done much personally to avenge that but I believe that I am helping do my part with the rest of you there at the plant.

I didn't get to come by and visit the last time I was home in October as I had just a few days and spent that time in getting married. I brought my wife, a Hendersonville girl, back to Tampa with me and now the Army does not seem half bad.

Tell all the folks hello and to keep up the good work of buying bonds. We, the boys in service, feel that all of you are backing us in our jobs and that by pulling together we can spend Christmas of '43 back on our jobs at the plant.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and the best of luck through the coming year, I remain

Sincerely

Sergeant John O. Hill

Nov. 8, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells,

As I remember you told me when I left Ecusta to write you 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 to receive a recent copy of the Echo.

With best regards,  
PAUL PERRY (Pvt)

November 18, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

I thought I would write to you so I may get a copy of the Echo. I would like to see what is going on around Ecusta. I wish I was still listening to the roar of the Refining Room. When people ask me where I am from and where I worked I can proudly say from North Carolina and I worked at Ecusta Paper Corporation.

Sincerely yours,  
William G. Simpson (Private)

November 30, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

Just received the November issue of the Echo for I am very grateful. The Echo is like getting letters from all my friends who worked at the plant as well as the boys who are now in the service.

I haven't heard from Howard Page since we left Fort Jackson. Would like to see a letter of his or hear from him.

At one time there were five of us here who worked at Ecusta. All were shipped out except me. I stayed on as an instructor. I like the Army O.K. but would rather be working at Ecusta with my old friends.

As I close let me thank you again for the Echo. It is a swell paper.

Sincerely  
Vernon Reese (Corporal)

December 1, 1942

Dear Mr. Wells:

I received the Echo and was glad to have it. I sure enjoyed reading about the folks back home. I am now on the desert of California and like it very much.

I sure would like to be back working at the plant. The weather here is nice and warm; the nights are a little cool. How is everybody in Pisgah Forest? Would like to hear from some of the folks.

Joseph A. Shook (Private)

**MAKE ALLOWANCES**

In every line of business and industry there are times when a worker, for one reason or another, allows himself to grow careless of the small civilities and courtesies of everyday life. The fact that he is called a 'grouch' does not always make him realize his mistake and cause him to re-adopt his former agreeable manner.

Today, when our country is engaged in total war and we are all living and working under conditions of greater physical and nervous strain, it is most important that every one of us does his utmost to foster the spirit of cooperation essential to efficient teamwork and increased production. Oftentimes a word less or a word more would mean the difference between a disgruntled person and a cheerful one, while the word that is not spoken can be the most powerful of all. Be tolerant of your fellow workers for tolerance is of the greatest help in promoting cooperation.

**1943 TAX INCREASED**

The new Federal Income Tax Law greatly increases the amount of tax that each person will have to pay on his or her 1942 income. We are calling this matter to the attention of our employees so that they may begin to save or provide for the payment of their taxes. All income tax returns must be filed not later than March 15th. The tax payment may be paid at the time the return is made, or it may be paid in installments—one-fourth March 15th, June 15th, September 15th, and December 15th.

All single people who earned \$500.00 or more and all married people who earned \$1,200.00 or more, must file a tax return. Each employee who earned the above amount will be furnished a statement of his earnings. The statement should be kept and used in making the return.

A state income tax return must also be filed by single people who earned \$1,000.00 or more and by married people who earned \$2,000.00 or more. The State tax rate has not been changed since last year.

In addition to the above taxes a Victory Tax will be deducted from all pay checks after January 1, 1943. This tax is separate from the income tax and the two must not be confused. An explanation of the Victory Tax will be found in another article in this issue of the "Echo." Be sure to read it.

In order that the employee may have an idea as to the amount of income tax he will have to pay, we are giving below a table which shows the approximate amount that will have to be paid on various incomes—look it over and see what you may expect to pay. The amount will seem large, but this is a war which must be paid for.

The personnel department will be glad to answer questions and assist the employees in making out the income tax returns.

**FEDERAL TAX**

Net Income	FEDERAL TAX	
	Single	Married No Dep. 2 Dep.
600.00	5.20	
700.00	20.92	
800.00	37.18	
900.00	54.04	
1000.00	70.60	
1100.00	87.16	
1200.00	103.72	
1300.00	120.28	
1400.00	136.83	7.80
1500.00	153.40	20.40
1600.00	169.96	36.96
1700.00	186.52	53.52
1800.00	203.08	70.08
1900.00	219.64	86.64
2000.00	236.20	103.20
2100.00	252.76	119.76 11.70
2200.00	269.32	136.32 23.40
2300.00	285.88	152.88 38.88
2400.00	302.44	169.44 55.44
2500.00	319.00	186.00 72.00
3000.00	407.80	268.80 154.80
4000.00	600.40	446.40 320.40
5000.00	793.00	639.00 507.00

**STATE TAX**

Net Income	STATE TAX		
	Single	Married No Dep. 2 Dep.	
1000.00			
1100.00	3.00		
1200.00	6.00		
1300.00	9.00		
1400.00	12.00		
1500.00	15.00		
1600.00	18.00		
1700.00	21.00		
1800.00	24.00		
1900.00	27.00		
2000.00	30.00		
2100.00	33.00	3.00	
2200.00	36.00	6.00	
2300.00	39.00	9.00	
2400.00	42.00	12.00	
2500.00	45.00	15.00	3.00
3000.00	60.00	30.00	18.00
4000.00	100.00	60.00	48.00
5000.00	140.00	100.00	84.00

Socrates thought that if all our misfortunes were laid in one common heap, whence everyone must take an equal portion, most persons would take their own and depart.

—Plutarch