

News From Former Employees Now In Service

STATIONED IN ALASKA

Cpl. James C. Gevedon writes from Alaska: "You will have to make another correction in my rank, as I have been made a Corporal. This leaves me in the best of health and having a fairly good time. The coldest weather we had last winter, where I was stationed, was 58.2 degrees below zero. I am still stationed in Alaska, but expect to get reassigned, or at least a furlough for 15 days."

WOULD LIKE SQUARE DANCE

George R. Sexton, Storekeeper 3-c, writes from the University of Minnesota: "I have been at the University of Minnesota for almost a year now and will be here for a while yet. I was home a few weeks ago but I didn't have time to visit the plant. My father died. I am a Storekeeper 3-c now. I'm looking for my 2-c next month. Yes, we have a big job here since the V-12 started and it has kept me busy. I have to work nights to keep up. We have seven schools here. We supply them all. I still like the Navy best of all. I have had a special training course here and I can say that I have learned more in the Navy than I did at school. Wishing Ecusta the best of luck."

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Oct. 20, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells:

About a year ago now I was leaving Western North Carolina, a place I didn't realize then was one of the better places in the world to live. I have seen several nice places in the States and also some outside; I have noted the weather conditions, living conditions, industrial centers, the difference in people, and also I have had an opportunity to be with and talk with boys from many parts of the world; but to take all into consideration, I haven't seen or heard of a place that can compare with Western North Carolina for better climate and weather conditions, better living conditions, more friendly and understandable people, better places to work under better working conditions, and for being a better "all around" place.

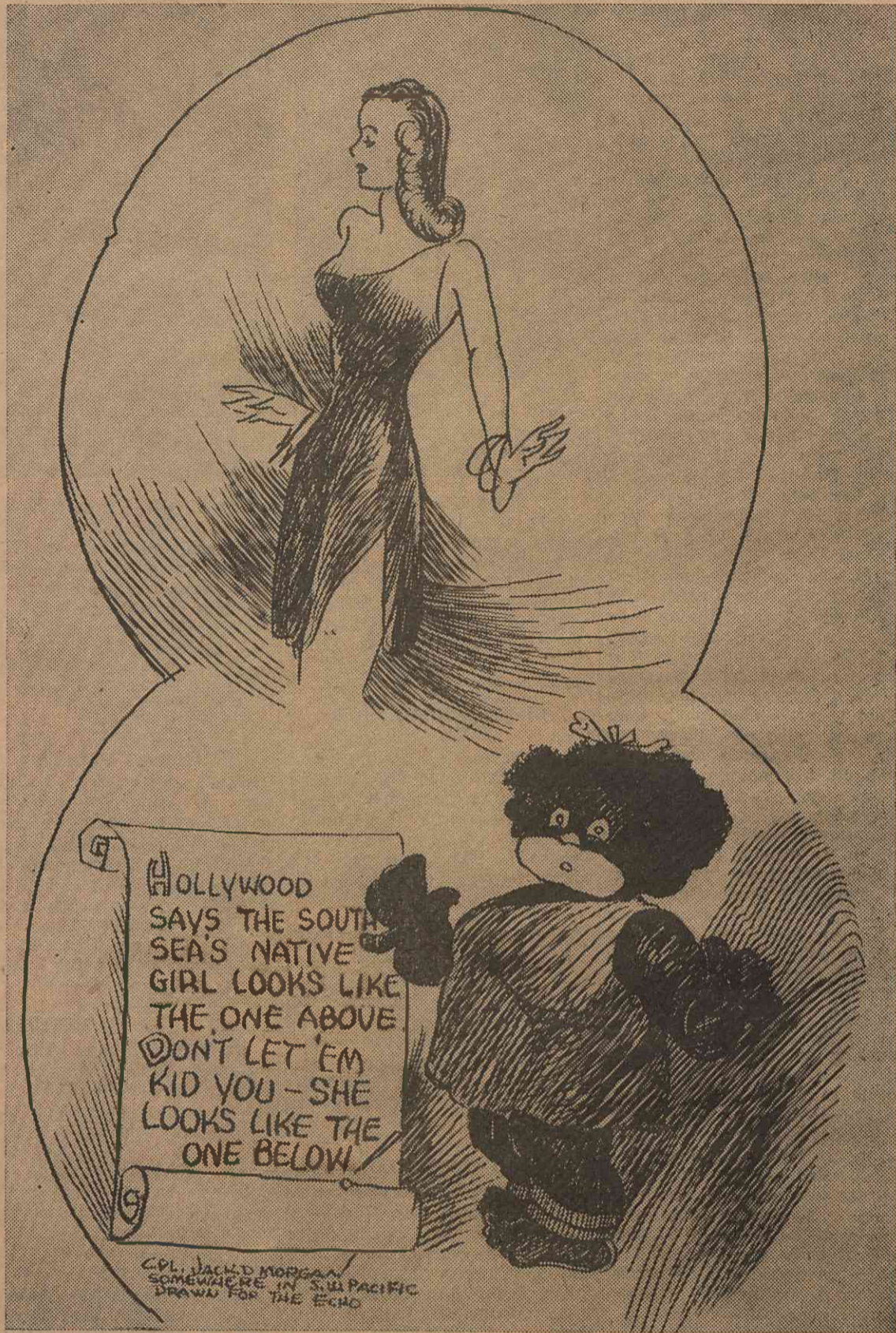
How are things there now? Probably somewhat different than when I left, but I bet the people are just as ambitious, determined and willing to carry on as ever in making their part of the country one of the better places to live. Not only this particular portion, but in helping make our entire land and country a better place to live; a land based on Christianity, higher ideals and better principles which we boys are so willing now to fight and defend.

Although many miles away just now, I still think of Western North Carolina, Ecusta, and all my friends there, and I am hoping for them only the best, and bestowing upon them my best wishes and regards always.

Since I last wrote I have moved to a new base. It went rather hard after several months school work at our last base, but this life really makes a man of you, and I feel fine and more active than ever. I think I will be putting my school work into practice within a few days.

As to the place, about all I can say is we have plenty of rain and mud here. A great life the boys say, "just can't beat it". Our job here, is probably our last assignment before we return to the States, and we are going to complete it. We are a rough, tough

THE TRUTH ABOUT NATIVE GIRLS IN THE SOUTH SEAS



and ready group of boys, and ready and glad to be here doing our part.

I have been picked out for officers training school which may bring me back to the States later for a college course. My papers have been passed and approved by the examining board, and I will probably get my physical examination soon. Quite a few requirements in this course, but considering my Navy school work and all, they say I am eligible.

It is very nice of you, the employers and employees at the plant, and other friends there, to be so thoughtful of me, also the other boys in the service, in writing, in encouraging us, and in working and fighting with us to help win this war.

Hoping everything is going well at the plant. My best wishes go to the ones who make it possible for people to have such a fine place to work.

Cordially,
Lewis M. Townsend,
(Carpenter's Mate,
2-c.)

WAVE WRITES TO FRIENDS

Inez Summey, Apprentice Seaman, writes from the US Naval Training Station at the Bronx, N. Y.: "I'm looking forward to getting the Echo, which I enjoyed very much while working there. My roommates are very anxious for me to receive one, as I have talked quite a bit about how nice you were in remembering service boys and girls. I like the Navy training school fine, including all the regulations and marching. We have lots of fun and hard work, but I really enjoy doing it if it will help bring the day of peace to all countries sooner. I enjoyed working with the people at Ecusta and would like some news of the things you are doing."

IS MOVED TO NEW FIELD

Pfc. Lewis P. Bagwell writes from Smoky Hill Army Air Field, Salina, Kansas: "We moved here from Great Bend, Kansas. So far I think this place is swell . . . I hardly stay in one place long enough to get an Echo. They always catch up with me."

LIKES PICTURE OF WAREHOUSE CREW

Pvt. Benjamin F. Walker writes from Camp Stewart, Ga.: "I was especially glad to get a copy of the Echo and hear about my fellow workers at the Warehouse. The picture was good of the workers at the Warehouse. I am glad to know that you are still getting flax and that your company is doing such a fine job in the War Bond drive. Ecusta always did do its part. I am looking forward to getting a furlough soon and hope to make a visit to the plant."

NOW IN ENGLAND

Sgt. Nathan Reed writes from England: "I am now stationed in England and working. I have visited a few interesting places here and hope to visit more in the near future. Why not drop me a line? Reading and writing letters and visiting local "pubs" (which is Limey's way of calling a bar) are the favorite pastimes of soldiers stationed here. Hoping to hear from you all."