

News From Former Employees Now In Service

WOULD EVEN LIKE GRAVEYARD

Rice John Pickelsimer, Apprentice Seaman, writes from the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill.: "... How is everything there at the plant? I sure would like to be there tonight even if I had to work graveyard ... Hope to be there when this war is over ... See you March 2nd." (Seaman Pickelsimer visited March 2nd on a 13-day leave.)

STILL IN THE STATES

Pvt. A. Cortez Hyder writes from New York: "... I am still in the States. I have been able to go to New York on passes and have had some wonderful times there, and have seen some very interesting things while there. There is one thing in particular I saw that I was very interested in. It was television and the methods under which it works, which I saw at the R. C. A. building ... Tell all hello for me and I hope to be back at Ecusta working with them again soon ..."

WRITES FROM ENGLAND

T-Sgt. Jack Blackwell writes from somewhere in England: "... I didn't work at Ecusta long enough to become acquainted with many of you but there are a few from Hendersonville who may remember me ... I've also been getting the Echo pretty regularly and I think it's a lot of fun to read it and see what your old friends are doing. I hope you don't forget me in your next issue ..."

STATIONED IN NEW ORLEANS

Stanley Taylor, Seaman 2-c, writes from the Naval Air Station, New Orleans, La.: "... I'm stationed in New Orleans, La., at the Naval Air Station. My wife is living here now, so I get to go home most every night. It's a nice place ... Would like to hear the news from you and Ecusta ..."

TAKES UP FIELD MINES

Pvt. Fritz Waldrop writes from Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri: "... I am in the Combat Engineer Replacement Center. It is nothing uncommon to be called out in the middle of the night to take up field mines. We get a good taste of actual combat plus our construction work. I am classified for water purification as soon as my basic is completed ..."

WHERE OUR TIRES GO

Second Lt. Ben Rickman writes from Hendricks Field, Sebring, Fla.: "... I will probably be leaving here within the next few weeks. When I leave this station I will be given my combat crew to train, which consists of nine men, and I will then be commander on a flying fortress as first pilot. I can well understand now why you all have to do without new tires. It is estimated that every time we make a landing in one of these ships it cost \$10 for wear of tires alone, besides the other rubber in the plane. I fly seven days a week here, so don't have any spare time ..."

NOW 2ND LIEUTENANTS

Spud Carpenter, Dewitt Drake and Arthur Leob finished Officers Candidate School about the same time and are now all 2nd Lieutenants in the Air force, Arthur and Dewitt have been routed to New Mexico, Arthur to Clovis, and Dewitt to Alamogordo. We haven't learned Spud's new location.

Is In England



PVT. CHARLIE CLAYTON, Jr., adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Guffie and former employee of Champagne Gumming and Shipping departments, is now a second cook in the Air Corps in England. He has taken his training at Keesler Field, Miss. and Camp Lee, Va. Pvt. Clayton played baseball with Champagne's team and helped win the 1942 trophy.

WIFE MAKING PLANE PARTS

George R. Sexton, Storekeeper, 3-c, writes from the University of Minnesota, Minn.: "... I sure like reading about the boys in service who used to work there ... I have changed jobs the last month and I don't have much time off. I am in charge of all of the Navy V-12 supplies here on the campus and that's no easy job ... My sister wrote that she was working up there and she liked it fine ... I have been working nights lately to catch up ... By the time I get around the week is gone ... We are having one of the best winters they say they have ever had around here. Just yesterday it was 48 above and that's pretty warm for this state. Last winter it was 30 below ... I have my wife here with me. She is working in a war plant nine hours a day. She likes it fine here, but she had rather be home ... Give my regards to Ollie in the Machine Room ..."

FLYING GOOD FIGHTERS

1st. Lt. Charlie Cooke writes: "... I am going to be here for a month or two ... We are flying some good fighters, but none of them are any better than the pilot that's flying them, and that's why the Americans are knocking the heck out of the Japs and the Germans. I hope to be over there helping some of the fellows I've trained before long. After our training here we are supposed to be ready for the big show ..."

EXPRESSES APPRECIATION

Pfc. Raleigh T. Waldrop writes from Daniel Field, Ga.: "... The backing that you and Ecusta are giving the boys and girls in the service is noteworthy ... It is indeed an honor to have been a small part of a corporation which is one hundred percent helping us return to a normal way of life ... The Echo is more or less a chain link. It is more than just a paper, it's a tie between Ecusta and the employees in the service ..."

Stationed In Va.



PFC. JAMES K. MILLS, Jr., former Ecusta Beaterman who has been in Service since May 27, 1943, is now stationed at Richmond Army Air base in anti-aircraft artillery. He took his basic and advanced training at Camp Stewart, Ga.

HOMESICK FOR U. S.

Cpl. Everette W. Whitmire writes from England: "... I am in England now and, although I have been here but a short time, the country seems o. k. However, I am homesick for the U. S. It's true, 'there's no place like home' ... Haven't received the Echo for the past two months and I miss it very much. It does seem to keep one in contact with home and friends, even the ones who are in service throughout the world. We find their letters in the Echo and it means a lot ... Regards to all at Ecusta ..."

MISSED ORANGE BOWL GAME

Dewitt Drake, O-C, writes from Miami Beach, Fla.: "... I am doing a bad job of having fun down here for the simple reason that I don't have time to turn around. They certainly believe in keeping us busy. We start at 5:30 a. m. and we are lucky if we get to bed by 12:00 ... We have an exam next Friday of 1,000 questions and after that we start slowing up a little on our academics ... We have so much to do that I am even going to miss the Orange Bowl Game today (New Year's) ... Spud Carpenter has been transferred to another outfit so I don't see much of him any more. Arthur Loeb left a few weeks ago for Harvard ..."

RECENTLY MARRIED

Lt. David Pickler writes from Houma, La.: "... Very recently I was married, and I can say that married life is as interesting as life on a warship. According to the Echo, quite a few people at Ecusta have been married since I left there ... Louisiana isn't nearly as good a place to live as North Carolina ... There are more deer here than there, and I have been eating venison occasionally ..."

STUDYING FOR AVIATION

Truman J. Henderson, S 1-C, writes from a Fleet Post Office: "... I am studying for an aviation rate and will be working in the Aviation Division as soon as I am out of this little job of mess cooking that I am on now ... Glad to hear that Ecusta is doing so much for the War effort ..."

SERVICEMAN'S LIBERTY PARADISE

T-Sgt. James T. Williams writes from Santa Anna, Calif.: "... I came here about a week ago and like it very much. The base itself is very pretty but the best part about it is that it is only a short distance from Los Angeles, which is a serviceman's paradise for liberty. I hope to be here for some time ... I enjoyed my furlough at home very much. Especially my short visit in the mill, and watching the bowling teams ... Best regards to all."

EXCELLENT "CHOW"

Lt. (2nd) Ansel Jones writes from Ft. Monmouth, N. J.: "... I am still here in Jersey enduring the weather—and a lot of other things too. I have been out in the field for the past three weeks and still have a few more to go. After that I will be awaiting orders ... I hope to get back down to Carolina the last of March or first of April for a visit, which will of necessity be brief judging from the few days we get for leave here ... The sun is shining today. Yesterday was a beautiful, warm spring day ... I enjoy the work outside because, as you know, most of my life I have spent out of doors. We have excellent 'Chow' out here, which is an important morale factor ... I trust that everything at the plant is running smoothly and the production is on the up and up. I sure would have enjoyed that birthday party for President Straus, I'll betcha. Gosh! A fellow sure gets homesick when he reads of things like that from back home. ..."

HAS THE MUMPS

Sgt. Conley McKinnish writes from an Army Air Base in Blythe, Calif.: "... At present I'm in the hospital with the mumps. We were ready to start our second phase of training when the Old Mumps got me ... A little correction about me. I'm not a bombardier; I'm an A. M. Gunner. MY position is the top turret of a Liberator. I'm working pretty hard at present and it's not long 'til the real McCoy ... I know we would all rather be in Wonderful Western North Carolina. Since that is impossible, you keep the home front on the up and up and we will keep plugging for Victory ..."

WRITES FROM ENGLAND

Sgt. Glen J. Summey and Sgt. Craig D. Snipes write from somewhere in England: "... We are here in England; it is a pretty nice place, but not like the good old U. S. A. There are lots of things that are different and hard to get used to. I sure wish we could be back at Ecusta working with the same old gang ..."

12,000 MILES IN 2 MONTHS

Cpl. Homer L. Batson writes from Ft. Benning, Ga.: "... Just to let you know I have been moved to a new station. It seems that we just get settled, then have to move again. This time it wasn't so bad though, for at last I've gotten back in the climate I like. I am now stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga. ... I'm tired of traveling. In the last two months I've traveled about 12,000 miles. That is quite a bit of traveling to do under present conditions ... I have been made a Corporal since I returned from furlough. That is the promotion I've been waiting for a long time ..."