

Pvt. Etheridge Is Now In Germany

Rudolph E. Etheridge, son of Leroy E. Etheridge, 657 Williams Street, Roanoke Rapids, N. C. has arrived at the European Theater Army Air Forces Reinforcement Depot, and will soon be assigned to a permanent station some-

where in Germany.

While he is at this post, situated near Munich on the picturesque wooded slope of a Garmar Alpine range, Pvt. Etheridge will have an opportunity to enjoy the scenic beauties of Southern Bavaria which made the region popular among pre-war tourists.

Formerly a prominent Luftwaffe training school, the Army Air

Forces Reinforcement Depot is one of the most attractive fields in Europe. At the present time several thousand soldiers each month are processed and given orientation in their occupational duties at this key station.

Before entering the service in March 1945, he attended Davidson College, North Carolina.

Ingram Served On Housatonic

Willard Ingram, seaman, first class, Star Route, Box 22-A, Roanoke Rapids, N. C., served on this fleet oiler, now at Pearl Harbor, through part of her war career. Her operations included fueling at sea and transporting oil through

U-boat "wolf packs" in the Atlantic.

The Housatonic carried 161,467,313 gallons of oil, and traveled 206,501 miles in 41 months of wartime duty. She assisted in assaults on Casablanca, Luzon, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, bombardments of Japan and the occupation of the Tokyo Bay area.

More Headaches for the Farmer

Once more the farmer is being asked to break all food production records. To plow more acres, feed more livestock and harvest more crops than ever before. He is being asked to do this so that America may continue to feed and clothe the needy throughout the world, as well as our own folks at home.

To carry out this job the farmer must have tools of production. Most of those he owns have taken a terrific beating. They can't be tied together much longer with rusty fence wire.

In the teeth of this situation, the farmer ran into a strike in the steel industry — a strike which hit at the heart of food production.

When the steel plants shut down, manufacturers of farm machinery and equipment, farm trucks and tractors cannot get steel for their products.

This year the farmer won't receive as many of the replacements he desperately needs. He'll fight ahead with his old, broken machinery trying to crack another food production record, but the cards are stacked against him.

All this means more headaches for the farmer — loss of vital food production, and a bad dent in his pocketbook.

Facts Too Frequently Omitted

The steel strike was called by the United Steelworkers of America—CIO, which insists on a wage increase totaling \$166,000,000. The U. S. Steel Corporation has offered a wage rise which if

applied throughout the industry would amount to \$135,000,000.

Steel workers are already among the highest paid wage-earners in America. Before the strike their average earnings were approximately \$1.16 an hour, \$9.26 a day and \$46.32 a week — on a forty-hour week. The U. S. Steel offer would have given them about \$1.31 an hour, \$10.46 a day and \$52.32 a week. But they refused it, and accused the steel industry of conspiring to ruin the union with an offered wage increase of \$25 a month, the highest increase in the industry's history.

The strike is a direct violation of the contract between the union and the steel companies. The union wanted a long-term contract and got it. The union agreed not to strike during the life of the contract. Yet, the union struck on January 21.

Fighting for a Way of Life

Farmers have a big stake in continuous steel production. They have an opportunity to say what they think about unchecked labor monopolies which bring to a stop the nation's recovery efforts, through excessive wage demands which could only add to inflation and cause soaring prices.

Not until enough of them protest unfair, dictatorial actions and urge proper safeguards against arrogant, heedless union leadership and one-sided labor laws will the country get back to sane, profitable production where everyone works together toward a better standard of living.

American Iron and Steel Institute

350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

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