



# AIR-O-MECH



## BLACKSTONE, WORLD'S GREATEST MAGICIAN, COMES TO SEYMOUR JOHNSON FIELD, SATURDAY, FEB 27

### Seymour Johnson Field to Have Singing, Marching Band, 150 Pieces Strong; Part of Music Program

Seymour Johnson Field will have a singing, marching band 150 pieces strong in conjunction with the new music program planned for this post, the Special Service Section announced this week.

Lt. George S. Burris, recently assigned to the Special Service Section is supervising the extensive music program.

The enlargement of the Post band, which is now composed of 47 pieces, will include development of vocal trios, quartets and glee clubs as well as various kinds of instrumental groups, large and small, to perform on and off the post.

The new music program will not stop with the band, but will be extended in all G. I. activities. More singing will take place within the squadrons, music will be played in Mess Halls during chow. Lt. Burris said that provisions for more and better singing by troops while marching were being made.

Extensive radio programs, both musical and dramatical, emanating from the Field are being planned.

### New Soda Fountain Opens In Service Club Cafeteria

A new liquid carbonated soda fountain was put into operation Wednesday afternoon at the Service Club's cafeteria.

First enlisted man to purchase an ice cream soda was Pvt. Aloysius S. Jablonaky (correct), of the 795th Tech. Sch. Squadron. Gushing with enthusiasm over the virtues of the new soda fountain, Aloysius fervently told one of the service club hostesses he was immensely satisfied. See "Soda Fountain", Page 3

### Watch These Nurses:

Seymour Johnson Field nurses would have put Adrian of Hollywood to shame this week when they put aside their thermometers for sewing needles and scissors to fashion the latest thing in curtains for their new Recreation Hall. In fact, the curtain-making fest was so successful that the nurses plan to make drapes for their living quarters soon, according to Lt. Maude Johnson.

The Recreation Hall, located in the nurses quarters now boasts a lounge room, dance floor, juke box and soft drink machines. To keep the nurses on their toes socially, rug cuttin' lessons began this week.

### OFFICERS, ENLISTED MEN LEAVE FOR AVIATION TRAINING

Two officers left Seymour Johnson Field recently for AAF PreFlight (pilot) school at Maxwell Field, Ala. for the purpose of pursuing the pilot training course there.

They were Lts. Harry J. Alcorn. See "Aviation," Page 3

### AERIAL GUNNER IS NOW PURSUING A. M. COURSE AT JOHNSON FIELD

Proudly wearing a pair of silver wings, Sgt. Woodrow Thomas arrived last week at Seymour Johnson Field to pursue the A. M. course here.

An accomplished aerial gunner so good, in fact, he was an instructor of gunnery at Ft. Meyers, Sgt. Thomas is anxious to complete the mechanics course so as to get "over-seas as soon as is humanly possible."

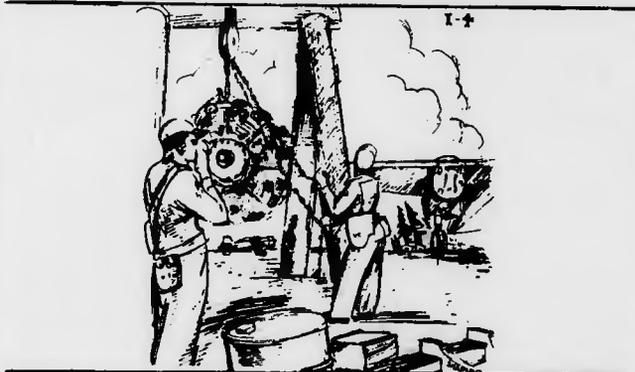
A 23-year-old native Floridian, the lanky buck sergeant enlisted into the Army in Sept. 1940 in Elkins, West Va., where he had been a student.

Hoping to become an all-around crew-chief when he graduates the a. m. course, Elkins desires immediate combat action, especially against See "Aerial Gunner," Page 3

### Soldier Song Writers On Post Offered Opportunity

G. I. song writers at Seymour Johnson Field now have the opportunity to rise to fame and fortune thru a plan to have soldier-written songs distributed and brought to the attention of publishers worked out by the Music Section, Special Service Division, in collaboration with Army Times.

See "Song," Page 3



### AIR-O-MECH INTERVIEWS RAYMOND

Four feet tall, and very dark, is Raymond Pierce, of the porter's staff of PX (let's be formal, Field Exchange) no. 1.

Raymond, who is as black as the coal he puts into the stoves of the exchange, is the 20-year-old cleaner-upper who likes, as he says, all soldiers.

"But," he exclaimed exclusively to Air-O-Mech this week, "There's a See "Raymond," Page 3

### Johnson Field Student Government Plan Gets State-Wide Publicity

State-wide publicity was given this week to the methods of student government utilized at Seymour Johnson Field since last November.

Formulated by the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command, student government on this field has found ready response and cooperation on the part of the embryo mechs.

Placing the responsibility of government squarely on the shoulders of every student-soldier, the See "Student," Page 3

### New Course in Observer Training Now Offered

A new course of observer training is now available to a limited number of enlisted men and warrant officers of the Army Air Forces who can qualify and be accepted for attendance at an officer candidate school, the Army Air Forces has announced.

The course includes 12 weeks of training leading to a commission at an O.C.S. of the Army Ground Forces. After commissioning, graduates receive ten weeks of officer training in grade at the Observation Aviation School, Brooks Field, Tex. Successful completion of this training leads to the aeronautical rating of Observer and an assignment to the Observation Squadron of the Army Air Forces.

See "Course," page 6

### U.S.O. Camp Show to Play Two Performances Here

The world's greatest living magician, BLACKSTONE, will appear in person at Seymour Johnson Field, Saturday, Feb. 27

With a large company of talented assistants, mostly vivacious females, BLACKSTONE will play at two shows, one at 1900 and the other at 2100.

The show, which will be presented at Theatre 1, promises to be one of the best presented by USO-Camp Shows at this post. Ghost scenes, spirit writing and experiments in the occult will be indulged in. Such world famed illusions as "The Girl and the Tree," "The Girl and the Bush," "The Water Fountain," "The Enchanted Garden," "The Girl on the Trapeze," and many others will be presented.

None of his exhibitions will be worked with mirrors, BLACKSTONE emphatically stated. Nor does he require trapezoids to be cut in the stages on which he performs. If he did require such cutting, it is afraid he wouldn't find any G. I.'s willing to work on the detail with the Guard House staring them in the face.

In addition to the magician, the See "Camp Show," Page 3

### MEMO: TO G.I.'S

When the United States Air Corps plans the misfortune of wrecking a plane, a financial loss is marked in the books, but not a total loss.

Most of the men of this field have noticed wrecked planes at various places at Seymour Johnson Field. These planes have come from all parts of the country, with the bigger percentage from fields located in the east.

When they arrive here, they are unloaded from the train by Sub-Depot. (sometimes they arrive by truck) Then are turned over to the men who work under Master Sergeant Ralph Keene. These men, all experienced aircraft mechanics, dismantle the ships and repair the wrecked parts. If a plane is wrecked too badly, they remove the parts that remain intact and burn them over to the schools from which A.M. students learn practical work.

But this job is not near as easy as it sounds, since many parts of these wrecked planes are buried

See "Memo" Page 3

### Games for Post Basketball Championship Get Underway

With the current basketball schedule completed, the Elimination Tournay came into its own at the Sports Arena, Friday night, when six squadrons battled fiercely, seeking to maintain the privilege of further play in this miss-and out affair. Some twenty-two quintets have announced their desire to participate in the Post - Season play-offs, which will eventually determine the "Champs" of Seymour Johnson Field. The crews of both leagues will

be pitted against each other, a spectacle long awaited by the many basketball enthusiasts. It is expected that present leaders will fare roughly should other squadrons continue their present rate of improvement.

Seeded number one and number two, due to their high calibre of play during the past campaign, 791 and 797th have been picked by the experts to meet in the title-deciding See "Basketball," page 6