



# AIR-O-MECH



## AM STUDENTS TO RECEIVE PROMOTIONS TO PFC

### Red Cross War Fund Drive On Johnson Field Predicted To Reach Goal At \$10,000.

The American Red Cross War Fund drive which opened at Seymour Johnson Field Sunday, Feb. 28, shows every promise of being successful in reaching its goal set at \$10,000, Edmund H. Evans, field representative, stated this week.

To date, \$3,100 has been donated, Mr. Evans said. Although enlisted men are not being solicited the Red Cross representative revealed that most of the donations received thus far have come from enlisted men who gave through their squadrons. All funds received in this campaign on the Post will be used locally, Mr. Evans stated.

The slogan "Give Double" has been adopted. All officers and civilians of the Field are urged to respond generously.

Booths have been set up in the Post Exchange and signs bearing thermometers indicating progress of the drive were erected at the Adamsville and Slocumb Street entrances, and at the Red Cross office by the Post Headquarters.

Honorary Chairman of the drive See "RED CROSS", page 3

### WRONG GUESS, FELLOWS

Those towers being built on Seymour Johnson Field are not places to shoot crap on Saturday nights, but observation towers for a drive on fire control.

There will be a number of these tall towers built at various places on the field to serve as look-outs for any fire that may break out in camp or its vicinity.

According to Fire Chief Jones, the towers will aid in keeping the fire hazard down to practically nil.

### Eight Officers Promoted

New promotions of officers were announced this week by the War Department.

Major John P. Newton, a graduate of Indiana University, was promoted from Captain. He is General Mess Officer as well as officer of the 12th Mess Training Group.

In civilian life Major Newton was a salesman. He was first commissioned June 13, 1931 in the Infantry Reserve.

Captain Donald G. Coe, Assistant Training Officer, was promoted from 1st Lt. He was formerly Assistant Manager of the Consolidated Electric & Gas Corp. at Bernans, Va. A native of New York he was first commissioned in August, 1933, and came to this post from Lowry Field, Colo.

Lts. George S. Burris, Roy G. Murray, Gilbert Magasiner, George W. Adams, James D. Montgomery, and William H. Wolf were promoted from Second to First Lieutenants this week.

### Capt. Bernstein First Red Cross Subscriber



Captain David B. Bernstein, who has almost equaled the acts of heroism performed by "Sergeant York," is shown contributing the first check to be received at Seymour Johnson Field during the current Red Cross Drive. Receiving the check (seated) is Major Ralph M. Giles, post adjutant who has been appointed executive War Fund chairman by General Walter J. Reed.

Twenty-three years ago, David Brandon Bernstein, a young Marine serving the Army of Occupation in Germany learned that - as far as a lasting peace was concerned World War I was "unfinished business." Today, a Captain in the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command, he is serving as assistant judge advocate at Seymour Johnson Field as his share toward finishing the job.

For eight months after the armistice we were billeted in the town of Segendorf about 20 miles southeast of Coblenz," says Captain Bernstein. "I spoke some German, and

used to spend a lot of time talking to the old folks and the soldiers who had just returned from the front.

It was the same story everywhere. The Germans didn't consider themselves defeated. They said they could have won the war if the United States had not come in at the crucial moment and turned the tide.

"They were already confidently talking of the 'next time', and even hoped that the U.S. would fight on Germany's side. After that I knew we were not living in peace but under an armed truce.

See "CAPT. BERNSTEIN", page 3

### Tax Deputies To Help Puzzled G. I.'s On Post March 8, 10, and 11

As the deadline for filing income tax returns nears, all men who want aid will be glad to know that two deputy income tax collectors will be here March 9, 10, 11 to give advice.

Men are requested to have with them their papers filled as completely as possible so that only problems will be handled by the experts.

Officer's preference will be given the morning of March 9, but for the rest of the time enlisted men will be taken care of. The two experts will be on hand all day long.

Place for the interviews will be the Courts & Boards Room in the Area Engineers Building. All men will enter by the rear door.

Much information about income tax problems has already been printed in past issues of this paper. They are available in the Air-O-Mech office in the Service Club.

All returns must be filed with each man's local Collector of Internal Revenue by March 15th.

### MALE CHORUS IS PART OF MUSIC PROGRAM FOR JOHNSON FIELD

Men of Seymour Johnson Field will really have something to sing about when their vocal talent is blended together in a male chorus being organized by Lt. George S. Burris, of Special Service.

The Chorus will eventually consist of 75 husky voices. Rehearsals will be held every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Band room on 3rd and F Streets.

Anyone wishing to be a member of this chorus need not be an experienced vocalist. All that is required is that you be able to carry a tune. The music which the chorus will sing will be of all types including Spiritual ballads, popular and marching selections. Call 242 or apply at 3rd and F streets. Both students and permanent party men are eligible.

Programs and radio broadcasts will be sponsored after the chorus is rounded into shape.

### Orders of Promotion Effective March 1

All airplane mechanic students will be promoted to Privates First Class, it was announced at Seymour Johnson Field this week. The authority, which came from Washington, under date of Feb. 17, 1943, made promotions effective March 1.

Squadrons will make the advance in rank just as soon as they receive direct orders.

If a student holds a rank higher than PFC, he will retain his rank.

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In the future soldiers will be made PFCs before they are shipped from basic training centers to Army Air Forces Technical Schools.

Another promotion will come to the student after he graduates from the AM course. Two days prior to his shipment to a factory school he will be made a corporal.

### A M GRADUATES TO RECEIVE SILVER TECHNICIAN BADGES

Seymour Johnson Field AM graduates will soon receive handsome silver badges which will be worn above the left pockets of their blouses and which will identify them as AAF technicians.

The badges will be worn by graduates of all Army Air Forces Technical Training Command.

The basic badge which will be the same for all graduates regardless of their specialties is approximately one and three-eighths inches square. Its design shows a gear wheel, encircled by a wreath, surmounted by a four-bladed propeller, the blades extending to the outer edges of the wreath. Extending from the lower edge of the badge are two small tabs from which a bar, an inch and one-quarter long, is suspended. This silver bar will carry the technical qualifications of the wearer - such as Airplane Mechanic. Men qualified in more than one specialty will wear an additional bar for each, the bars being suspended one below the other by silver links.



The badges will be issued to the hundreds of thousands of men who have graduated and are graduating from Technical Training Command Schools as soon as the required quantity can be made.