



THE WEATHER It was a long time in arriving, but it finally came this week. We're talking about summer. Yes, it finally got warm in the Tri-City area this week and at last coats and sweaters could be shed without fear of catching cold.

Vol. 1—No. 20

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., June 20, 1945

50 Cents a Month

Frank Rickman Named Head Of Legion Post

Frank Rickman was elected commander of Charles Hagerstrom, No. 9, of the American Legion and three veterans of the present war were named to other offices during a meeting at the Memorial armory last evening. Mr. Rickman succeeds Frank Muehlstein and will be installed along with the other officers at the September meeting.

Job Trends in Small Concerns To Be Surveyed

A continuing survey of month-to-month employment trends in small business establishments in Wisconsin Rapids was started today by the bureau of labor statistics, according to John B. Parrish, Chicago regional director.

Wisconsin Rapids is one of 11 Wisconsin cities and 475 cities in the entire United States where the study is to be made," Parrish said.

A representative group of owners of small retail and trade establishments is being asked to report each month the total number of full and part-time employees in the establishment and the number of unpaid persons, including owners and family workers," he stated.

MARSHFIELD SOLDIER HURT Marshfield—Pfc. Robert L. Barrett, son of Mrs. Frances Barrett, Marshfield, was slightly wounded in action on Mindanao in the Philippines on May 13, according to a war department telegram received here by his mother Tuesday.

Rapids Officer Has Enough Points for Two Discharges

Although he does not intend to request release from active duty, First Lt. Burnell F. Goodness, son of Mrs. William Huchthausen, 1511 Wylie street, has enough points for two discharges. He is stationed at Reading Army Air field, Reading, Pa., with the 136th Radio Security detachment. He recently was promoted to first lieutenant.

His potential total of discharge points is 190. The minimum number of points required is 85. Lieutenant Goodness' total was compiled in 54 months of service, 28 of which were overseas. He wears 15 decorations and has been recommended for three others, twice for the Purple Heart for wounds received at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, again in August, 1942, in the Solomon Islands and the Silver Star for action on Midway island during the Midway battle.

Other decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal, with oak leaf clusters; eight bronze battle participation stars and the Presidential Unit citation with three oak leaf clusters.

He has participated in 87 combat missions, consuming 850 combat flying hours. His total flying time in World War II is 1,800 hours. In one series of engagements, his bomber was the only survivor out of 25.

Union Group Hears Labor School Head Vik Ulrickson, assistant director of the University of Wisconsin School for Workers, said that laboring men paid a large part of the cost of maintaining the university but got less out of it than most groups as he addressed the Central Labor Body at Union hall last night.

Pittsville Man Hurt While Loading Rails William Marx, 56, Pittsville, was taken to Riverview hospital about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon with a broken left ankle which he received when he caught his leg between two iron rails while at work.

Guard Plans Bayonet Drill, Gas Technic Included in the schedule of summer work outlined for Company F, Wisconsin State guard, will be bayonet drill under the direction of Lt. K. J. Hubbard and Sgt. Thor Johnson and instruction in the use of gas by Lt. Harold Larson and Acting Sgt. Victor Young.

15 HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS HELP OUT HOSPITAL STAFF

Fifteen high school students, some already with a definite idea of entering the field of nursing, others filling in for the summer months until classes begin, are working as attendants at Riverview hospital.

Coming to work at 7 o'clock each morning, their jobs under supervision of graduate nurses are many and varied, and ease somewhat the load which the registered staff has been carrying.

Making beds, giving baths and back rubs, folding sponges, carrying trays, dismissing and admitting patients and taking temperatures are some of the tasks which these attendants perform each day. Their work does not entail the handling of any medicine or drugs, nor does it include any of the "charting" which is the registered nurse's personal report of the patient's condition to the attending physician.

Asked for Jobs The attendants eat their meals in the staff dining room of the hospital and, in addition to mealtimes, they have each free for three hours during the day. They also have a half day off per week. Older attendants who have been on the staff for a longer period of time are assigned to night duty but the high school girls are working days only for the present.

The girls all applied for the jobs themselves, some of them to fill in during the summer, and others to gain experience before entering schools of nursing.

Audrey Bassauer, Phyllis Akkerman and Leone Bassler, who graduated from Lincoln High school this June, are giving some thought to entering the nursing profession. Jackie Wilcox and Jane Krohn, who still have more high school days ahead of them, also think that they might follow this work upon graduation.

Edith Weiss is just "biding her time" until she is old enough to be accepted in nurses training. Grace Berg, a 1945 senior, and Nona Binnebose, had been for some time before the close of school and are now employed full time.

The other attendants are Mary Moore, Jill Severance, Carol Lathrop, Ellen Frede, Dorothy Long, Joan Klawitter and Betty Ehsan.

Woman in Hospital With Skull Fracture; Mate Held Mrs. Geraldine Berg, 25, 361 Thirteenth street south, was taken to Riverview hospital this morning suffering from a skull fracture. She told police that her husband, Walter Berg, 30, struck her on the head several times with a wrench while she was sleeping in bed. After being struck and only partially unconscious, Mrs. Berg fled to a neighbor's home.

Berg told police that they had been quarreling during the evening and after she went to bed he picked up a 10-inch wrench, went into the bedroom about 11:30 and hit her on the head three or four times. After she ran from the house, Berg said he called police and told them to send an ambulance. Mrs. Berg was located at the neighbor's home and taken to the hospital.

He is being held in county jail pending further investigation and Mrs. Berg's recovery, according to Police Chief R. J. Exner. The attending physician said that Mrs. Berg's condition is fair.

Berg is employed at Prentiss Webers Products company. The couple has three small children. They have been divorced and were re-married recently, according to the police report.

At a preliminary hearing yesterday, Walter Berg, 30, 361 Thirteenth street south, pleaded guilty to a charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm and was bound over to circuit court when arraigned in justice court of Marjorie Jacobson.

Berg has been held in county jail since Saturday pending the recovery of his wife, Geraldine, 25, who is confined to Riverview hospital with a fractured skull. Berg told police he struck his wife on the head two or three times with a wrench while she lay sleeping.

Lloyd Felice Is Named to Board Lloyd Felice, 1941 Washington street, a carpenter, was named to the Wisconsin Rapids board of adult and vocational education at a meeting of the school board in Lincoln High school last night.

Permission was granted for use of the fieldhouse for a Youth for Christ rally to be held June 26. Routine reports were heard and plans for the proposed new Howe grade school were discussed.

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HOSPITAL ATTENDANTS AT WORK—Fifteen high school students are spending the summer as attendants at Riverview hospital to gain some practical knowledge and aid in the present help shortage. From left in the upper left picture, Jane Krohn, Mary Moore, Jill Severance and Carol Lathrop sit on the glassed porch of the hospital to fold sponges and stretch gauze. The reclining of this gauze by folding and stretching is a valuable piece of work performed by these attendants, hospital officials say. Upper right, and left to right, Leone Bassler, Betty Ehsan, Phyllis Akkerman and Ellen Frede, look on as Mrs. Marion Desdow introduces Dorothy Long to the procedure of making a bed "hospital style." Lower left: Taking temperatures and recording them for each patient is another duty, which Jackie Wilcox demonstrates here. Lower center: Audrey Bassauer and Joan Klawitter are taking the patient's trays from the dumbwaiter at lunchtime. Lower right: Some of the attendants are allowed to show babies during visiting hours. Grace Berg has just wheeled one mite-sized infant over to the window where those interested may take a look, giving out with the usual "ahs" and "ohs." Two other attendants are Edith Weiss and Nona Binnebose.

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Nepco Employee Took Part In Daring Destruction of Fort Drum in Manila Bay

Pfc. John J. Podvin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Podvin, Sr., 107 Second street, Nekosia, can claim the distinction of having participated in an amphibious operation which is described as the most unusual of the Pacific war—the destruction of the supposedly impregnable Fort Drum, massive concrete fortress on El Fraile island at the entrance to Manila Bay in the Philippines, which withstood air and sea bombardment. Podvin, a member of the 113th engineer combat battalion, engineer unit of the 38th "Cyclone" division, played a part on the combined assault team of infantrymen and engineers which reduced the powerful fort.

A member of a demolition squad, he moved under covering fire directly onto the top of the concrete fortification, which rises a sheer 40 feet from the waters of the bay, by means of a ramp slung from the bridge tower of an LCM. From hose lines more than 3,000 gallons of flammable oil were pumped into the interior of the fortress and high explosive charges were placed.

As the half-dozen assault craft pulled clear of the fortification, heavy explosions buckled the eight foot thick deck of Fort Drum and armor plate were hurled into the air. With the annihilation of the Jap garrison manning the fort, the clearing of Manila bay was complete. Ten days earlier, the occupation of nearby Corregidor was effected by a combined land force-paratrooper attack.

Private Podvin entered the army August 17, 1942 at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and joined the 38th "Cyclone" division at Camp Carrabelle, Fla. Finishing his training, he was sent to Hawaii, then served in New Guinea, Leyte and in the present campaign on Luzon. Podvin and the attacking force have been commended for the hazardous and highly successful operation at Fort Drum by Maj. Gen. William Chase, commanding general of the "Cyclone" division.

Prior to his induction, Private Podvin was employed by the Nekosia Edwards Paper company. BAND CONCERT TONIGHT The band concert originally scheduled for last Thursday will be played by the Wisconsin Rapids City band tonight at Witter field. The concert will start at 8 o'clock.

Schmitz to Manage Store in Minnesota Earl W. Schmitz, who has been with the local J. C. Penney Co. store since December 1, 1939, and now holds the position of assistant manager, has been appointed to manage the Penney store in Hutchinson, Minn.

Theater Drive Nets \$70,000 in Bonds Nearly \$70,000 in bonds were purchased by Wisconsin Rapids residents during the Seventh War loan bond campaign sponsored by the Wisconsin theater, according to Fred Sawaske, manager of the theater.

Chiswell Family Welcomes Three Sons in Service Crowded conditions will prevail after tomorrow at the Sydney Chiswell home, 350 1/2 First avenue south, but the occupants won't mind it at all. This will be the first time that the family will have been reunited in four years, and now three sons, two from the Royal Canadian Air Force and one from the U. S. Navy, are arriving or have already arrived for the long awaited get-together.

Pilot Officer Douglas R. Chiswell, RCAF, is already at home after having been liberated from a German prison camp on April 25. He enlisted in the air forces August 14, 1941, while his family were still living in Canada. He was taken prisoner March 5, 1942. After a six weeks visit he will report back to Canada and the family is hoping it will mean his discharge from the armed services.

Petty Officer Sydney Chiswell, U. S. Navy, arrived last night from Norfolk, Va. He is visiting with his parents, his wife and 19-month-old daughter.

Begin Survey to Obtain Data On Postwar Plans

The special postwar planning committee has begun a survey of South Wood county to gather information on peacetime construction projects, both private and municipal, and obtain data on labor requirements to be used as a guide to orderly community growth. W. A. Sprise, general chairman, announced today. Various groups have been set up to canvass the entire area and a master plan will be drawn from the material secured.

"Our situation is unique for, instead of having to promote projects to provide employment for veterans and others, we obviously will have more jobs available than there will be men. That is one thing the serviceman returning to this area does not have to worry about—a job," Mr. Sprise pointed out.

"We will endeavor to assemble this information to get an accurate picture of the problems ahead. While all specific details will be kept confidential where such is requested by a private individual or firm, statistics will be summarized and made public. Cooperation in completing questionnaires and returning them will be necessary if a complete and useful compilation is to be made," Mr. Sprise said.

The chairman pointed out that some things like the Wisconsin Rapids water system improvement program already are underway but the information still is necessary for projects such as this will cover a period of several years. Separate forms will go to urban and rural areas. They cover the amount and type of employment for normal operations and for construction or improvement programs.

Members of the sheriff and traffic committee who attended the meeting were Roy E. Pucker, Marshfield, chairman; E. J. Keenan, Dexter; William Rusk, Nekosia; Lambert Cheney, Milladore and C. A. Salter, Pittsville.

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LT. CHARLES RAMLOW

Lt. Ramlow Owes Plenty in "Borrowed Time"

BY ROY DERUS One of the most amazing stories to come out of the European war belongs to Lt. Charles F. Ramlow, brother of Clifton O. Ramlow, 500 1/2 Twelfth avenue north. And even more amazing is that he's alive to tell about it.

Lieutenant Ramlow, whose home is in Shawano and who was employed at the Griffith State Nursery before the war, lived several lifetimes in fighting the Nazis both as a B-17 bomber and as a member of the Dutch "underground" and, unless you've a good stout heart, don't read further.

Lt. Ramlow was wounded twice, once in the chest from flak just before they were forced to make a crash landing in Germany and later in the foot while making an escape from the Nazis. He was awarded the Purple Heart and wears the Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Presidential Citation and Symbol for Escape from Enemy Territory. He entered the army in August, 1942, and spent a year and a half overseas, of which 11 months was spent working with the Dutch underground.

His hair-raising experiences got off to a fast start on his trip overseas when a bomber was lost near Iceland. He landed in Norwich, England, in April, 1944, where he was stationed with the Eighth Air Force. After bombing raids on such targets as Kiel, Frankfurt and Posen, Poland, Lt. Ramlow's troubles really began in a 2,200-plane raid over Berlin.

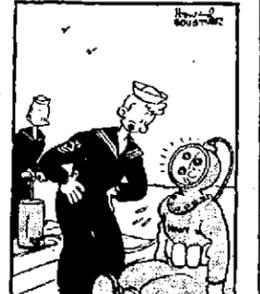
storm and I told the boys to prepare for a crash landing. As we came about 200 feet from the ground, we hit a couple trees and the plane was slipped on its back. I just got it back to normal when we hit the ground. Our gas tanks were still and we headed for the door. I stopped momentarily to get ration and equipment and, as I reached the door, the plane exploded, tossing me about 20 feet into the air. None of us were injured, however.

"Then we split into four groups to avoid detection and my party went to a small village in Holland. I learned the Dutch language pretty well and was appointed interrogation officer for the Dutch underground in that section. We would raid courthouses and similar buildings to obtain food cards, but even so I lost 35 pounds during the 11 months. We also did a little demolition work but stopped when after blowing up a bridge, the Nazis rounded up 150 supposed underground members and shot them in the streets after burning the town. One of my crew members was among them and, as the victims laid in the streets for three days, I disguised myself and went down and identified his body," he stated bit-

got the papers and got away without mishap. But for anybody's future information—never again!

"In November, 1944, we started out at night with 99 men for the Rhine river. We were within a half hour of our destination when we were ambushed. The Germans waited until we were within 10 feet of them and opened up with about 15 machine guns. We automatically dropped, those that weren't hit. My three crew members yelled out that they were hit. I felt all over my body, as I was sure I was wounded but all I could see was living lead. I gave first aid to some of the boys and told them I'd have to leave or be shot.

Hold Everything



"No wonder he didn't want to come up!"