

OUR MEN IN SERVICE

T/Sgt. Wilbur P. Jenson of City Point is a member of the 17th bombardment group, Linz, Austria, recently cited for the second time by the war department as a distinguished unit. Blanking enemy strong points at Schweinfurt, attacking 26 Marauders of the 17th group made it possible for the 42nd infantry division of the Seventh army to seize the city with virtually no opposition, the citation noted, "thus bringing to a more rapid conclusion the ultimate victory of the allies."

T/Sgt. Harland J. Clark, whose wife, Jane, resides at 310 Ninth street south, was recently promoted to that rank from staff sergeant. He is personnel sergeant major at an advance depot in France. Aboard Aircraft Carrier

Frederick H. Siegel, fireman 2/c, Route 5, Wisconsin Rapids, has been admitted to the U. S. naval hospital at Great Lakes, Ill. He is a veteran of 10 months service overseas. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Siegel, he attended Lincoln High school and enlisted in the navy February 7, 1944. While overseas he served in the South Pacific area, participating in action on Marshall, Philippine Islands, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Lt. Benjamin T. Douglas, USNR, of Adams, is pictured resting on the cockpit of his torpedo bomber before taking part in raids on the Japanese homeland.



Douglas served with the famous Task Force 58 and is a veteran of Okinawa and the Kyushu, his squadron on its first combat mission rolling up a score of 60 Jap planes. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion W. Douglas

Lt. Douglas lives at Adams. He was a former University of Wisconsin student. T/Sgt. Lester M. Ress, husband of Mrs. Bernice Ress, Wisconsin Rapids, has been promoted to his present grade from private first class. Corporal Ress is with the cannon company of the veteran 120th infantry, senior regiment of the battle season 32nd division in Luzon.

Corporal Ress entered the armed forces in December, 1942 and was assigned to the 33rd division the following month. He was trained at Fort Lewis, Wash., the Mojave desert, Calif., and saw action in the central Pacific area, New Guinea, the Netherlands East Indies and Luzon. He was in action at Baguio, former summer capital of the Philippines during the recent Philippine liberation campaign.

Since going overseas, the corporal has received the Expert Infantryman's badge and the Combat Infantryman's badge. He has two campaign stars on his Asiatic-Pacific theater ribbon and is eligible to wear one star on his Philippine Liberation ribbon.

Pfc. Edwin Kedrowski, son of Mrs. Johanna Kedrowski, Airport street, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal by Major General Fay Brink Prickett, commanding general of the Tenth armored division, somewhere in Germany. Private Kedrowski, a truck driver with the service company, 11th tank battalion. His citation reads as follows: "For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at Rot-A-Seo, Germany on April 9, 1945, braving intense enemy fire and danger of burning vehicles and buildings, Pfc. Edwin L. Kedrowski, truck driver, courageously delivered vitally needed gasoline to forward units. His exemplary conduct reflects great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States."

The Tenth armored Tigers gained early fame as the first front-line defenders of Bastogne, the stumbling block of the desperate German counter-offensive in the Ardennes. The division was the first in the Third army to invade Germany and the first to capture the major German city. They were the first on the western front to smash into the national redoubt, Hitler's vaunted inner mountain fortress, and the first division in the Seventh army to enter Austria. Operating under an identification blackout in four different sectors of the front the Tenth armored was called the "Ghost Division" by the bewildered German 82nd corps.

Pfc. Orin N. Roach, son of Mrs. Anna R. Roach, 320 Lincoln street, was recently awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Luzon. He is a member of the 113th engineer combat battalion, engineer unit of the 38th "Cyclone" division which avenged Bataan.

He has been engaged with his unit in clearing out Japs from the Marikina watershed area east of Manila. Private Roach has served in Hawaii, New Guinea, Leyte, and Luzon.

Sgt. Edward E. Knapp was recently promoted to that rank from private first class. He has participated in the Asiatic-Pacific campaign, the Ruhr and central Germany and has been an assistant squad leader of a rifle squad. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Knapp, Route 1, Pittsville.

Delbert A. Zuege, radarman third class, 610 Saratoga street, served aboard the USS Urban when she turned her guns on a Jap steel col-



National Hara-Kiri?

Just a Letter From Home

Monday, August 27, 1945 Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

Dear Bud, People hereabouts slowly are recovering from the elation of victory and are busy trying to get their feet on the ground. It still doesn't seem possible that the war is over for rounding up the widespread Japanese forces looked like an interminable job. Surrender did not seem to be in the cards. But the atomic bomb and Russia's entrance into the war changed all that. Now we are sinking our teeth into a task as important and complex as that of gearing up for war.

The changeover to peacetime pursuits poses many problems both for individuals and the nation as a whole and all are going to have to pull together just as we did after Pearl Harbor lest there be unnecessary hardship and confusion on the home front. Here in South Wood county, there will be little dislocation and trouble for most of our basic industries and occupations were diverted into the war effort with little disruption and the same holds as we enter upon this peacetime era.

Our main concern is to procure materials and find skilled workmen to implement building programs side-tracked by the war and, in common with the rest of the country, to get merchandise and other products back into the hands of the public.

One of our chief aims, naturally, is to welcome you back to the old home town when Uncle Sam gives you the word and see that you get started anew in good shape.

There is one thing we'd like to caution you about. Our first postwar project was fencing in the backyard. If you ever decide to build a fence—don't. It looks nice and all that. And it will keep the kid and dog corralled. But life is too short. As you may suspect, we have just had a joust with the post-hole digger. It won. I suggest that you just make yourself a permanent fox-hole and forget all about it. One first digs the post hole, trying not to strike water. One then sharpens one end of

Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany on 19 February 1945. While performing duties in a forward observer crew, their positions were subjected to an intense artillery bombardment and two members of the group were painfully wounded. After rendering first aid and directing their evacuation, he removed the radio from the wounded man's back, placed it on his own and continued to call for accurate fire on enemy positions. Private Habbeck's heroism and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the army of the United States."

Private Habbeck is now with the army of occupation stationed in Wintterburg, Czechoslovakia.

The promotion of Gene P. Becker, Vesper, to sergeant was announced recently at headquarters, 13th AAF, Philippines. Sergeant Becker is an administrative clerk with the Crusaders, famed B-26 Mitchell outfit of the Jungle Air force. A veteran of 28 months overseas service, Sergeant Becker has been with the Crusaders as they pursued the Japs through the Solomons, New Guinea, the Philippines and Borneo. The Crusaders furnished the major portion of the low level bombing and strafing attacks on Balikpapan before and during the recent invasion of the Borneo oil center. Sergeant Becker is the son of Mr. Paul Becker of Vesper. A brother, Douglas Becker, is with the merchant marine in the Pacific. Assigned to 376th

Cpl. Robert R. Gjertson, son of

the post and drives it in with a sledge-hammer, trying hard not to whiff because the follow-through can have disastrous results. One then nails a section of fence onto the post. And then the whole damn thing falls over.

Well, we are coming to the end of a summer that has been all too short. Gardens get a late start and an early frost will just about break the V-gardens' backs. The cranberry crop is considered spotty and the corn is nothing to write home about. Days for swimming, golf, tennis, etc., were all too few and, in general, it has been pretty lousy as far as the weather is concerned. We may still get a warm spell but it will be small consolation. You can put it down that you haven't missed much.

Football season will be filling the air and the new Lincoln coach, Phil Manders, will be trying very hard to put the Rapids eleven back on the conference map. The Green Bay Packers meet the College All Stars at Chicago Thursday night and we'd like to be one of the 90,000 on hand but figure to get no closer than our radio. Gasoline rationing is no more but there still are such things as tires and one's workday.

With the hope that these letters have proved of some value and with profound thanks to the relatives and friends who have clipped and forwarded them to you, we're winding them up this week in the belief that you now are in better position to inform yourself of what is going on and can size things up as you see them. We can assure you that it has been a pleasure. The Servicemen's Digest of the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune containing all the local news will keep coming so long as its publication is warranted. In this space each week will be a set of question and answers such as have occasionally been included in the weekly letter containing information vital to servicemen and their families. When you get back, don't forget to drop in at the Tribune office and tell us all about it. We'll be looking for you—

Thanks for a Total Victory, R. A. D.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gjertson, 950 Baker street, has been assigned to one of the most famous units of the army air forces, the 376th bombardment group. This unit flew B-24 Liberators on 452 long-range combat missions in the Middle East, North Africa and Europe. Now the unit is training with B-29 Superfortresses at Grand Island army air field, Neb. Prior to entering the army at Fort Sheridan, Ill., in April, 1943, Corporal Gjertson was employed by Consolidated Water Power and Paper company. He is currently assigned to the flight line of the 376th bomb group.

Capt. Kenneth W. Miller, 841 Wylie street, recently was awarded the Bronze Star medal for heroic achievement. He is a member of Company B, 44th armored infantry battalion in Europe. His wife, Loraine, resides at 1321 Clark street, Stevens Point.

A real veteran of World War II, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Smolarek, 1011 Tenth avenue, Wisconsin Rapids. He is a truck driver in Service Battery, 129th Field Artillery battalion of the veteran 32nd "Red Arrow" Infantry division now in northern Luzon.

He entered the army in October of 1940, trained at Camp Livingston, La., and embarked for duty in the Pacific with the division in April of 1942. He has seen action at Saider and Aitape in New Guinea, and Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines. For this service, he is entitled to wear three battle stars on his Asiatic-Pacific Theater ribbon and one bat-

tle star on his Philippines Liberation ribbon, authorized by the commonwealth government of the Philippines. For his services prior to Pearl Harbor, he is entitled to wear the American Defense ribbon and is a holder of the army good conduct medal.

Prior to entering the army, Corporal Smolarek was a truck driver. He attended St. Lawrence school in Wisconsin Rapids.

Pvt. Nelson H. Shepard, husband of Mrs. Helen Shepard, Wisconsin Rapids, has been assigned to Alliance Army Air field, an installation of the First Troop Carrier command, the outfit that carried paratroopers and gliders to their combat destinations, dropped supplies, and evacuated the wounded on the world's battle fronts. Before entering service he was employed by the Lambert Transportation Co., Minneapolis.

Sgt. Frederick E. Blatt of Arpin, a veteran of 20 months overseas, has reported to the "Green Project," an Air Lift Distribution center at Camp Blanding, Fla. Sergeant Blatt was in a recent shipment of men who were returned to the United States from the European theater of operations, via Miami, by planes of the Air Transport command.

S/Sgt. E. M. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Smith, Neillsville, has been transferred from Manila to Northern Luzon.

Theodore Wallace Williams, son of Robert Williams, Sr., has been advanced to seaman first class. He is stationed aboard the USS Nev-

New Vocational School Term Will Get Underway Tuesday

The Witter Vocational school will open at 8:30 Tuesday morning, September 4. W. A. Sprise, director of vocational and adult education, announced today.

All minors between the ages of 14 and 18 years of age, who are not attending and do not contemplate attending any full-time public or parochial school and who have not graduated from high school are required to attend Vocational school. Minors unable to attend Vocational school due to illness must present to the school authorities on the day of registration a certificate issued by their physician.

The youths will be divided into two groups. Those between the ages of 14 and 18 who are not employed or who are employed on a vacation or after school labor permit, and those who are 16 to 18 years of age who are employed each day on a regular labor permit. The former group will attend school each day from 8:30 to 11:45 each morning or from one until four o'clock each afternoon. The latter who are employed each day on a regular labor permit will attend each Wednesday for eight hours from 8 o'clock in the morning until five in the afternoon. Must Bring Records

Students registering for the first time on Tuesday are requested to bring their birth certificate and, if they have not been enrolled prior to this date, they are to bring their records from their former school.

School attendance affects those who reside out of the city and who are employed in the city as well as all residents of the city who are employed out of the city.

All text books are furnished by the school, but a deposit of \$1 per semester is required for paper, pencils and other incidentals. This will be made at the time of registration or not later than the first week of school.

In addition to the social science course consisting of English, arithmetic, government and world geography which is required, special shop courses may be elected in machine shop, sheet metal, printing, plastics, auto mechanics, drafting, wood working, clothing, foods and ladies' tailoring. In addition to the above courses, if the enrollment warrants and an interest is shown, acetylene welding and electric arc welding will be offered on a part time basis.

Apprenticeship Classes Apprentices now indentured and those who are expecting to be indentured within a short time in machine shop, tool and die making, plumbing, and the building trades will be notified individually and will meet four hours each week for a total of 144 hours per school year in accordance with their indenture.

Tribune Letter Box

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. Tribune readers and friends are invited and urged to write their opinions or questions of timely interest for publication in the Letter Box column. All letters published must contain the author's name. Letters should be of moderate length, should be legibly written and should not contain anything of a defamatory or libelous nature.

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

In the Pacific

Dear Editor: Well, this is it. The war is over, but ahead lies the big job of winning the peace. And we can do it.

I am still a long ways from home, riding a destroyer. We have a lot of work out for us yet, but my thoughts now are more than ever turned towards home—the Rapids. During my service the Tribune, and then the Servicemen's Digest, has kept me in contact with the Rapids. For that many thanks. What the future holds in store for us no one can safely predict, but I'll lay my bets that the Rapids will come through with flying colors. I am proud of my hometown and hope to be able to share her future. As a young lawyer, I do not know what my part will be, but I am ready to do it.

This is not meant to be a paean of praise, but rather a vote of confidence—of confidence in the Rapids. It was something I had to get off my chest and I know that those thoughts are in the minds of many of the boys in service. I hope that I have been able to express their feelings, as well as mine.

Sincerely, Lt. (jg) Donald E. Relland.

Increase In Hydrant Rental Rate Approved

Notice was received today that the city of Wisconsin Rapids has been authorized by the public service commission at Madison to increase rates charged the municipality for fire protection services approximately \$15,000 a year, which will bring the total cost to \$30,000. The purpose of the increase was to help insure payment on the \$500,000 bond issue which recently was floated for the new water supply. The rate formerly was \$15,000 and was paid by the city to the utilities for hydrant rental.

Radmer Takes New Position

Don Radmer, teacher of music, band and chorus at the John Edwards High school, Port Edwards, has accepted the position of orchestra and chorus teacher at the Central High school in Sheboygan. Mr. Radmer, who obtained his B.E. at Milwaukee State Teachers' college and who has attended Northwestern university, joined the faculty at Port Edwards in the fall of 1936.

He has participated in many community affairs, has been a member of the Port Edwards Music and Study club and has been the choir director at the Community church for the past five years. Mr. and Mrs. Radmer and children, Richard and Michael moved to their new location today.

Ration Office Will Be Closed Saturdays

The local war price and rationing board will not be open for business Saturdays from now on, W. Fred Bushnell, chief clerk, stated today. A 40-hour work order has been received from the OPA central office.

Mr. Bushnell stated that the rationing board will be open from 8 o'clock in the morning until 4 each afternoon Monday through Friday.

Special trade circuit instructors will be made available by the school for this instruction.

In addition to the regular afternoon classes in clothing, painting and art work held in former years, ladies' tailoring will be offered this year for the first time. This will be offered one afternoon and one evening each week for a period of ten weeks. Mrs. Josephine Haupt will be in charge, she has majored in ladies' tailoring and assisted Professor Herbert Rieger, specialist in ladies' tailoring, this summer at Stout Institute. Mr. Sprise suggested that ladies' interested in this course register immediately by calling the school. Each class will be limited to 12 persons. The work will begin the first part of September. It may be impossible to retain the instructor beyond the 10-week period due to the demand for this service, Mr. Sprise said.

Circuit Instruction Circuit instruction for tradesmen will be offered sometime during the year in plumbing, cosmetology, waitress training, electricity and salesmanship. Only those engaged in these various fields are eligible for this work.

The local school is equipped for the training of the returning veterans in machine shop, sheet metal, printing, linotype, welding (both arc and acetylene), auto mechanics, drafting, and will assist anyone in filing their application for training with the Veterans Bureau. Where sufficient number is not available in this community to warrant a class, the work may be taken in other Vocational Schools within a short radius.

Evening School Plans are being formulated for the opening of evening school sometime during the first part of October. The work will be divided into two periods of ten weeks each. A dollar registration fee will be charged which will be returned if 80 percent of the classes have been attended. Special bulletins will again be mailed prior to its opening and an announcement will appear in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune.

The former faculty will return with the exception of two instructors in related subjects and in printing which will be replaced within the next day or two, the director stated. Wilbert Hein will teach machine shop; Von Holliday, auto mechanics; Frank Howell, woodworking; John Plenke, Jr., drafting; Harry Peterson, sheet metal; Miss Eileen Reardon, foods; Miss Anne Roach, clothing; and Mrs. Josephine Haupt, ladies' tailoring.

Nekoosa Schools Will Have Many New Teachers this Fall

Following a conference at which a teacher was engaged to fill the high vacancy in the Alexander High school faculty, Superintendent J. E. Rohr announced the personnel for the fall and winter term that begins September 4 at the Nekoosa school. The vacancy in the library and English position, created by the resignation of Miss Clara Iverson, has been filled by Miss Martha Cook of Warren, Ill., a graduate of Milwaukee State Teachers' college. After 14 years on the Nekoosa faculty, Miss Iverson is to leave for a position outside of Wisconsin.

Other changes in the high school staff bring the following teachers to Nekoosa: Miss Lois Anderson of Strum, from Eau Claire State Teachers' college as physical education and history teacher; Miss Mary Corrigan of Lancaster from Platteville college as English and Spanish instructor; and Miss Mary Jane Monte as leader for choir, orchestra and grade and high school music work. Miss Monte is a graduate of Milwaukee State Teachers' college and is a Milwaukeean.

More than half of the grade teachers are new. Children in the grades are to be re-grouped under the teachers as follows: Kindergarten, Miss Alyce Wallen of Granton; first grade, Miss Viola Engass of Holman; first and second grade, Miss Hilda Haugen of Stanley; third and fourth grades, Miss Dorothy Maxwell of Arkansas, Wis.; fifth and sixth grades, Miss Eunice Webb of Bloomer and sixth grade, Miss Ellen Jacques of Exeland. All the new grade teachers are graduates of Eau Claire with the exception of Miss Engass, from Platteville and Miss Exeland from Superior. Teachers who are returning are Mrs. Ruth Potter, Miss Lois Hatch, Miss Alice Fluke and Miss Mary Hale, in the grades and Miss Irene Berge, Floyd Britton, Miss Ruby Fleming, Theron Hoke, Miss Luise Kersten, A. F. Kozlowsky, John Ostrum, Miss Marjorie Steinbach and H. J. Schuren.

In the calendar recently mailed to parents of students, requirements were listed for graduation and college admission and students were asked to remove schedule conflicts before the opening of classes by consultation. New students were requested to register this week.

Memorial Service Held For Sgt. Bell

A memorial service was held Sunday at the church of St. John the Evangelist for T/Sgt. Robert Bell, who was reported missing in action July 18, 1944, and later officially declared killed.

The simple service attended by the congregation, relatives and friends, was delivered by the Rev. Ira A. England, rector of Trinity church, Lincoln, Ill., a friend of Sergeant Bell. The sergeant was the husband of the former Joyce Hamlett, Port Edwards and the son of Clifton Bell, 1040 Sixteenth street north.

Trial of Rapids Man Postponed to Sept. 7

Marshfield—The trial of Willard H. Nason, Route 4, Wisconsin Rapids, who was charged with assault and battery when arraigned in the municipal court of A. C. Warfield August 22, was postponed from this morning to September 7. It will be a jury trial.

Nason is charged with striking Paul Blum, Marshfield, causing a brain concussion. Bond of \$500 was furnished.



WOUNDED—Pfc. Melvin Salzman, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salzman, route 2, Milladore, recently sent his parents the Purple Heart which he received for wounds received on northern Luzon in June. Pvt. Salzman entered the army Oct. 23, 1944.

Port Edwards Must Wait for Dial System

D. G. Smart, manager of the Wood County Telephone company, in answer to several questions about the coming dial system of communication for the village of Port Edwards, stated today that there is still a considerable work to be done and it will be sometime before it is in operation.

He explained that work was begun on the new system in 1941 but, along with other civilian projects, had to be halted during the war. A number of phones equipped with dial drums have been received and installed but the central equipment has not yet been released. The manager advised Port Edwards residents that the phones with dial drums will continue to work in the same manner as before until the new system is in operation and he urged that they refrain from handling the dial units at this time. Mr. Smart said that the new system would involve about 300 phones in Port Edwards when completed and declared that it would increase efficiency of service.

No definite plans for a dial system in the city of Wisconsin Rapids are contemplated at this time, Mr. Smart added.

