



Maroon and Gold



State Teachers College, Bloomsburg, Pa.

VOLUME XX

BLOOMSBURG, PA., MARCH 26, 1943

NUMBER SIXTEEN

News Brevities

London

Russia announced the loss of Belgorod, a rail city, fifty miles north of Kharkov.

On the central front the Russians reported continued successes in the drive on Smolensk.

Russian troops killed eight hundred Germans and demolished fifteen tanks in the Chunguev area, Moscow announced, indicating that the Soviet-Donets line was holding firm.

The Polish Government-in-exile reported that the entire population of Jewish people of five Polish towns have been murdered by Nazi Secret Police.

A German underground radio station reported that forty to seventy per cent of the German women called up for labor in the industries were refusing to report to mobilization authorities.

North Africa

While the major forces of the American Army in Tunisia were being held back by torrential rains, a spearhead force advanced from Gafsa and entered Sened without encountering any resistance.

Three American divisions, under command of Lt. Gen. George W. Patton, prepared to advance toward the Gabes bottleneck as soon as they had footing, while to the South, the British Eighth Army blasted the Mareth line and awaited Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's command to advance.

The Croix de Guerre has been conferred on sixty United States soldiers for outstanding acts in fighting along side the French on the Tunisian front.

North Pacific

The Navy disclosed that American bombers attacked Kiska Island in the Aleutians eleven times during the past week.

The Jap base of Munda in the Solomons was also bombed last week.

"There are some people one loves best, and others whom one would almost always rather have as companions."

Henrik Ibsen.

MYSTERY OF THE HAT

It seems as if one of the stores in Wilkes-Barre is in a bit of a quandary—and someone in Waller Hall is responsible. One of the charming college females went shopping at the Boston Store a short time ago for a hat. But she did not find a hat in the correct size.

Now comes the mystery. The store sent away for the particular size she desired and the chapeau now awaits her. But alas, the store has lost her name.

Here are the identifying features disclosed to us by the store. Our heroine has sandy hair, her father is a doctor, and she ordered a hat.

Madame, won't you please get your hat?

REVISION OF SOCIAL POLICY MAKES COLLEGE STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR ROOMS

The ever increasingly popular Social Room was closed for the past two weeks until the policy was revised for its use. The College Council set up the following policy which has been approved:

1. The social rooms shall be open on week days from 12:00 noon to 1:00, from 3:00 P. M. to 5:30 P. M., from 6:30 P. M. to 9:50 P. M.; on Saturday from 1:00 P. M. to 5:30 P. M., and from 6:30 P. M. to 10:20 P. M.; on Sunday from 1:00 P. M. to 5:30 P. M. and from 6:00 P. M. to 9:50 P. M.
2. All members of the faculty, Navy Officers and cadets, students and their friends shall have the use of the Social Room.
3. Strict regulations include—No dancing, no serving or eating of food, inner room to be reserved for use of College Council as an office, and no smoking.
4. The President of the Council will appoint a committee to be responsible for the administration of the Social Room Policy. This committee will see that some member of College Council is present either in the Social Room or in the Council office during the hours that the room is open. Each member of College Council will be responsible for being there certain hours each week.

Violators of the above mentioned policy will be warned on the first offense by members of College Council. On the second offense they will come before College Council which will act as a tribunal.

There's the policy, now how about cooperating and keep that room open? Each member of the college community is responsible so let's see how well we can work together for something that benefits us all.

NAVY PROGRAM

On Thursday evening, March 18, the Navy men again delighted a large audience with their entertaining "Happy Hour" program which was held in the Junior High School auditorium.

The program opened with movies, taken by Mr. George Keller, showing the hi-lights in the daily activities of the Navy men, and they were of special interest to everyone. The Bloomsburg Hillbillies, impersonated by Ensign C. Kimball, Ensign K. Miller and Ensign W. Leineweber, Jr., brought plenty of laughs from the audience with their songs and jokes. The climax of the program was the "Happy Hour Follies," a satiric comedy directed and produced by Ensign Ian Gordon.

After the completion of the program, the Navy men, their wives, faculty members, and students enjoyed dancing to recorded music.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work."

Plato.

Mrs. Doris Mason Gives Illustrated Talk at Chapel Exercises March 26



MRS. DORIS MASON

BUS. EDUCATION CLUB HOLD MOCK TRIAL

The Business Education Club held its regular meeting in the auditorium, and after a short business meeting, at which time it was decided to cancel plans for a chapel program on April 16, because of the dramatic club play, the program was turned over to Sam Mazzeo. Mr. Mazzeo presented a Mock Trial, Hansen vs. Sylvanus.

Trial Began

Before the trial, Mr. Mazzeo gave an interesting talk on court procedures and how they applied to the case being presented and to other cases of the same nature. Those who took part in the Mock Trial were: Elsie Flail, judge; Mary Schroeder, clerk of the court; Jack Furman, plaintiff; Harvey Huber, his attorney; Joseph Gula, defendant, Lucille Martino, his attorney; Jean Maschal, Shirley Wolfe and Betty Zong, witnesses, and the jury was made up from the panel of Business Law I students.

Officers Appointed

The Junior Class decided at its last meeting to have the Faculty Advisor and the Vice-President appoint officers to fill the vacancies left when George Smith, John Thomas and Donald Rabb were called into the Army. This policy was suggested because the Junior class members are so hard to get out to vote. The vacancies were in the offices of President, Treasurer and Boy Representative.

Louise Madl, Vice-President, and Mr. Rygiel, class advisor, appointed the following people: Ann Shortess, President, and Joyce Hay, Treasurer. Edward Manley was appointed Boy Representative, but at the last C. G. A. council meeting he was named Vice-President of the council. Therefore, the office of Boy Representative is still unfilled.

"There is no rest for the messenger till the message is delivered."

Joseph Conrad.

Selects Subject in Audience and Displays Talent by Molding Likeness

Doris Eaton Mason gave an interesting lecture and demonstration in assembly on Friday, March 26. Mrs. Mason is a sculptor who, besides her work in sculpturing, lectures to various groups throughout the country about her art.

Exhibits Portrait

Mrs. Mason opened her program by exhibiting a clay portrait of some one chosen from a previous audience. After the audience had seen this portrait she cut away the clay from the outline of the skull and started to rebuild the head, modeling the features of a person chosen from her present audience. As she worked she discussed modeling and casting methods, and showed samples of molds, casts and carved work. She also told how the tools and armatures are used and made.

Education

The artist was born in Green River, Wyoming, educated in the public schools of Idaho, and continued her studies at the Lewiston State Normal School, the University of Idaho, and received her master's degree in art from the University of Iowa.

Mrs. Mason has placed portraits in many states and in two foreign countries. She has held two one-man shows and has had some of her work chosen for exhibition in Rockefeller Center, New York. In addition to her work in clay she has worked in limestone, wood, marble and alabaster.

WHISPER CAMPAIGN

It was overheard in the library by Suzy Q. that there was "sumpin' doin'" on Saturday, April 3, 1943. She immediately told her best pal, Liza Jane, that she heard they wuz throwin' a party or sumpin, on April 3, 1943. Not to be outdone, L. J. told her "One and Only" about the party.

The "O. A. O." passed it on to his roommate Joe Hamburger that he and his playmate should set aside April 3 for rug-cutting in the Old Gym. The rattler immediately called his "Darling of the Dorm" to save April 3 for a bit of jive, dance and card playing in the Old Gym.

"The D. of the D." told her roommate who told her best friend, who told her roommate who told her favorite prof who told the prof in the next room who told three of his apple-polishers, who told—and so on, far into the night.

Well—by that time, the event was really going to be some affair. It went something like this: "On April 3 in the Old Gym from 7:30 until 10:30 the student body, faculty and wives, Navy men and wives, and outside guests are invited to attend a really spectacular event."

Sounds like fun. Guess I'll tell my sister. Here we go again!

Maroon and Gold



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Associated Collegiate Press

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MARCH 26, 1943



Editorially

I'VE BEEN READING

I've been reading about a country that not many of us have ever given a thought. It's relatively small in comparison to our nation, but the people there have the same burning desire for freedom which we have always had within us. This country, Korea, juts out from China into the same waters that surround a treacherous little group of islands—the Land of the Rising Sun. Like us, the people of Korea are fighting a battle for freedom; a battle they have been fighting for thirty-seven years. I can't begin to tell all that these people have done or could do, but there is an article in the magazine called Asia and the Americas, written by Henry Chung and Robert T. Oliver, entitled "Korea, Neglected Ally." It is that article that has started me thinking about Korea—not as a small territory just off China, but as a nation struggling for its life; a nation that could aid us if we could give it a chance.

If you are interested in knowing more about Korea as an ally, you will find the article in the March issue of Asia and the Americas.

—Marjorie Stover.

Did you volunteer your services for selling War Stamps? Give your name to Joanna Fice today. And EVERYONE, go buy some Stamps.

"Delay is ever fatal to those who are prepared."

Lucan.



By PARRY

As the final All-Star offering of the semester, West Chester State Teachers College presented to its student body last week the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Arthur Rodzinski. Incidentally, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra announced that Mr. Rodzinski will be their permanent conductor beginning next season.

Three ways to avoid embarrassment when you fall on the dance floor:

1. Just lie there; they'll think you fainted.
2. Get up gracefully; they'll think it's part of the dance.
3. Start mopping the floor with your handkerchief; they'll think you work there. —Clipped.

Character sketch of "The Little Man Who Wasn't There:"

Who are his mother and father? Transparents.

Where does he live?

In the second story over a vacant lot. What does he eat for breakfast?

Sliced doughnut holes and vanishing cream.

Where does he keep his horse?

In a fable.

What does he say to his lady love?

Sweet nothings.

His favorite song?

"All The Things You Aren't."

His hobby?

Collecting smoke rings.

Best friend?

The "Invisible Man."

Favorite drink?

Evaporated milk shakes.

—The Girard News.

DAY, DORM GIRLS GIVE A PARTY

Day and dorm girls gave an all-girl party in the new gymnasium Friday evening, March 19. After a lively cageball game everyone went to the swimming pool where relays and races took place.

Races and Relays

First in the order of events was the ping pong race in which each person participating was required to blow a ping pong ball across the pool. Mary Schroeder, displaying superior breath control, won the contest. In the umbrella and newspaper race which followed, ten girls caught up on current events and did their "daily dozen" simultaneously. Dottie Johnson and Ruth Ebright were the winners. The paddle relay required that partners swimming doggie fashion, retrieve wooden ice cream spoons from the pool. The results were so confusing that it was difficult to decide whether "scotties," "bulldogs," or "dachshunds" won.

Climax

Climaxing the water entertainment, a group of girls showed their aquatic skill in form swimming. The following girls took part: Ida Mae Clark, June Keller, Betty Hagenbuch, Peggy Heness and Kathryn Hess. After the scheduled entertainment everyone enjoyed a general swim and followed this with refreshments. Guests of the evening were Dr. Kehr, Miss Ranson, Miss McCammon, Miss Gilmore, Mrs. Koch and Mrs. North.

BOOK REVIEW

By BETTY HAGENBUCH

SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE-MARION HARGROVE

As stated in the first chapter, this is Private Edward Thomas Marion Lawton Hargrove's "contribution to the Army and to posterity." And what a contribution this twenty-three year old Southern "yardbird" makes on raising the morale on the home front.

Here is one of the outstanding specialists in the work of K. P. Probably few other men in the entire personnel at huge Fort Bragg, North Carolina, have a record so illustrious with deeds of enforced K. P. duty as this young chap. Naturally, it wasn't that he was actually ever very bad, but things "just happened," like forgetting to polish shoes, shirt buttons unbuttoned, no leggings, no field hat, hurting the mess sergeant's feelings and a few other minor points. Then, too, there was the time during inspection when a frivolous little playful fly alighted on Hargrove's sensitive nose and begged to be scratched, but as Hargrove said, "Oh, well! The kitchen isn't so bad after you get used to it."

Helping to make military life a more pleasing experience were the efforts of large dark Irish Private First Class Malvehill, the guy with million dollar ideas; Sergeant Sher, Hargrove's bosom buddy and severest critic; and Private John A. Bushenie, official photographer for the Field Artillery Replacement Center and a very expert "taker-over" of other fellows' girl friends, including pal Hargrove's.

Included in these assorted tales are the trials of Hargrove's kindly but irritated sergeant trying to explain when and when not to salute officers; Hargrove's attempt to attend school and become a proficient Mess Sergeant, and as an outcome his transfer to the public relations office.

As a sub-title for this refreshing account of a rookie's adjustment to military life, I can think of none other than "Penrod Takes Over the Army."

Unless your sense of humor is deeply hidden or your funny bone isn't functioning, this book is bound to bring the chuckles and deep self-satisfying belly laughs. Written in the language of a twenty-year-old boy, it's as refreshing as April showers and ideal for a night before the fireplace.

DAYMEN DEEDS

After three years of contentment at B. S. T. C., Winton Laubach is becoming disgusted with things. We quote him, "Heck, I can't even find a pinochle player around here." That's nothing, I can't find anybody to write about . . . The other day at lunch time Carl Diltz was surrounded by a bunch of fellows. Know why? He had one of those rare delicacies, a banana . . . Some of the former day men, now in the service, have written and would like very much to correspond with some of the student body. You can get their addresses up on the bulletin board in the day room . . . The day room is awfully peaceful these days. No one to argue with . . . Millard Ludwig finds time between mouthfuls to offer bits of news in the sports world . . . With the radio out of order, Winton and Johnny have to entertain the boys with duets.

YESTER-YEAR

Featuring Young Jackie Siko (alias Dr. E. Nelson himself) and his Dashing Fanny Widderbottom.

Young Jackie Siko is determined to get a date with Miss Fanny Widderbottom; so we see the first efforts of this dashing, high-collared gentleman about to engage in a stupendous task.

It is early morning, the tee-wee hours of six-thirty when we hear the tip-toeing of gentle marching down the back stairs of the dining room. We then hear a mad rush from the front entrance! Among this stampede, if one is observant, we catch the scanning eagle-eye of young Siko for his prospective fiancée who is with the lambs coming down the back way. The deans have been careful not to let the boys and girls congregate as they do now, because, well, someone could be trampled on in a stampede.

Ah! He catches the glint from her wandering glance as she scans the flock for her hero.

The grace is said and the absorbing problem of not confiscating the peas with your knife is now undertaken.

Young Siko trying to make a good impression, gently lifts the round polly poles with the flat, very flat silver. A smile emerges from the ever tense lips of Fanny. Around the posts, past the dean's table, it is seen by Siko. Clash! Bang! The fork, knife and plate meet in a loud echoing clammer throughout the dining room!

Dean: "I think you have an errand Mr. Siko, ahem, you may excuse yourself now!" As modern Jackie makes his way past his future deserts he whispers: "G-G-gee" and hurries out of the room because he'd have to get permission to speak to a student at another table, especially a girl. A date is underway! It is dawning! Oh yes, it takes time, patience, and planning in this era of discipline. The next episode of adventure and excitement in the "Good Old Days" will continue next week in Yesteryear! "Ye Archeologist."

Movie Preview

The "Hollywood" gives Casablanca an AAA 1/2 rating. Since it is primarily a love story, the events of the past few weeks—our invasion into North Africa—will not alter or decrease, by any means, the effectiveness of this propaganda picture. This most exciting yarn is spun around the smuggling of refugees out of Europe. The North African locale gives a current air to the general plot.

The cast is well chosen. Humphrey Bogart as an American cafe-owner, Ingrid Bergman, as the wife of a Czech patriot and Paul Henreid, in the role of the Czech Patriot, make the picture worth seeing.

"We are healed of a suffering only by experiencing it to the full."

Marcel Proust.

CAMPUS QUOTES

- Betty Bierman: I was so mad I could have spit—twice.
- Mr. Reams: But in the final analysis—
- Ella: Hello there Bumsy-bum!
- Kay Jones: Oh Fiddle de dee.
- Ben: Get up boys. Sticky buns for breakfast, today.

Kerchusky Was Outstanding Player

Gained Many Honors of Recognition While in School; Was Team Player

Bill Kerchusky, said by many to be the best center ever to play on Bloomsburg hardwoods, was recognized by sports writers all over the state and even by some outside during his three years of varsity play on Husky teams.

Kerchusky closed his brilliant career just two years ago. As a Freshman during the 1937-38 season the Ringtown lad confined his efforts mainly to the Jayvee outfit where as a guard on the first team he was fourth in scoring with 41 points. He also participated in three varsity tilts but was held to three points.

Leads in Scoring

The following year Kerchusky was promoted to the varsity and promptly responded by topping the scoring column with 140 markers in thirteen contests. Teaming with Bill that year were Maelyn Smethers and Andy Giermak at forwards, and Sterling Banta and Balchunas as guards.

In his Junior year he rated second in individual scoring with 217 points. Slim Herr was first with 243. That year Kerchusky set a modern Bloomsburg record and possibly an all time mark when he tallied 31 points against Indiana as the Indians were submerged, 70-34.

On First Team

The last year Kerchusky played he again led his mates in scoring by tossing 241 points through the hoop. When the Huskies swamped Montclair, N. J. Teachers that season by a count of 74-37, Kerchusky tied his own record of the previous year by racking up 31 points again.

This was the year Bill really was recognized by the writers. He was named on the first team composed of State Teachers Colleges of Pennsylvania. Then when the all-Pennsylvania five was selected, including all colleges and universities, he received 21 votes and was placed on the fourth team.

Still another group of scribes noticed Kerchusky's playing, and he was given honorable mention when the All-America list came out. This particularly reflected the writers' impressions of the great center because they had over 600 colleges and universities to pick from, and to even get mention was an honor.

High in State Scoring

His total of 241 points in 1940-41 placed him eleventh in state scoring. The leader, Mike Wallace, of Scranton, had 328, but he played eight more games than Kerchusky. Many was the time when instead of taking a shot himself he would pass the ball to a team mate. He was strictly a team player, and this was one of the reasons why a record of 29 victories against 12 defeats was posted during his stay.

Kerchusky counted 597 points over his three year span and recorded an average of 15 a game. Another compliment he received was from George Ehemann, Millersville's great center. Ehemann, who made the first five of the All-Pennsylvania team, said that Kerchusky was the best player ever to guard him. Kerchusky, like other B. S. T. C. stars, was under the capable guidance of George Buchheit.

Lillian Baer is again occupying her old room in Waller Hall after an illness of two weeks. Glad to see you back, Lill

Sports Diary

BY MILLARD LUDWIG

With the selection of Bloomsburg as a possible center for the new V-12 program, interest from the sports angle is centered in that direction. The program, which is for men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one, would provide the college with material to carry out a schedule of athletic events. This is almost impossible at the present time. The Navy, as the writer stated before in this column, has approved the idea of permitting their students to take part in athletics whereas the Army, which has a similar program known as A-12, has turned thumbs down on any sort of participation in intercollegiate athletics.

The lull on the sports front which always exists between the winter and spring activities is now in full swing. Many small colleges have thus far continued even though on a limited basis, but will probably now decide whether or not to discontinue sports for the duration. The spring program usually includes for most schools at least baseball and track, and both of these sports require a good deal of manpower. So it seems that any time now fans will hear of decisions one way or the other.

California State Teachers College will probably be one of the teachers colleges to have sports this spring . . . California has been well blessed with high school students who entered at the beginning of the second semester . . . West Chester was the last school to lose men to the Army . . . The Rams were minus Nathan Kendig, star guard, when they tangled with East Stroudsburg the last game out . . . Herb Truxton, who participated in many outside track events the past winter also entered the service.

CENTENNIAL GYM WAS SCENE OF PLAY-OFFS

The Centennial Gymnasium was again this year the scene of important district four P. I. A. A. basketball eliminations.

Milton outsmarted a good Conyng-ham five to the tune of 46-36. This game was close all during the first half, but in the last two periods the Panthers from the Susquehanna League came back strong to cop the fracas.

Berwick snowed under Clarks Summit, 59-26, in a game that never saw the losers within striking distance of the Bulldogs. "Bells" Colone and Johnny Robsock, Berwick giants, led the offensive department.

Both Berwick and Milton, however, lost out in the Eastern Pennsylvania semi-finals, Berwick having lost to Hazleton, 42-28, and Milton to Lower Merion, 47-26.

DAYROOM DOIN'S

All those who missed the "get-together" in the new gymnasium last Friday, certainly missed a good time. I'll guarantee some of us might be a little stiff and sore, but all of the fun made that worth while.

When Blaine Kreisler moved into the dormitory, there was a vacancy on the official board. Betty Hagenbuch was elected to serve in Elaine's place. The Freshmen have elected Althea Parsell and Betty Smith as their representatives to the official board.

You'd be surprised how many people didn't recognize Dottie Johnson and Hazel O'Brien because they wore anklets and saddle shoes Friday afternoon. They just had to let themselves go since nine weeks of student teaching were over.

Say, did you know Betty VanLiew is a poet? Ah, reverie!!!

Probably there will be a little more action in the dayroom, now that Spring has officially arrived.

By the way, what kind of driver are you?

Dayroom Rottie
The Eyes and Ears of the Dayroom.

"There is nothing more tragic in life than the utter impossibility of changing what you have done."

Spring Sports Picture Indefinite

No Plans Have Yet Been Made For Track or Baseball; No Events Canceled

According to recent reports, nothing definite has been decided about intercollegiate sports here during the next few months.

Dr. E. H. Nelson, athletic director and baseball coach, has stated that sports will be carried on chiefly on the intramural basis, but that it may be possible to play a few baseball games with teams from the immediate vicinity. George C. Buchheit, track coach, said that no money has yet been appropriated for use of athletics.

Few Boys Remain

Bloomsburg is one school that has canceled no athletic events, even though a great shortage of material has existed. Approximately 35 boys remain in school, the low number being due to calls by the service. However, if it is at all possible, indications are that intercollegiate sports will remain on the calendar.

SPORTS BRIEFS

It has been found in most cases that football pays for collegiate sports. Thus if the grid sport is dropped for the duration, nearly all others will go with it.

Basketball officials have stated that the elimination of the center jump has increased scoring. They further explain that it gives more actual playing time in the 40-minute game.

Great Lakes Naval Training center has the largest indoor swimming pool in the world. The pool holds approximately 680,000 gallons of water.

Basketball was nearly on the ropes in the early days of its life because different teams had different rules. High schools, colleges, Y. M. C. A.'s, and pro teams all had separate regulations, and when the clubs clashed from two of these classes the result was anything but pleasant.

Dorm Girls, Listen

Schoener demanded a taxi to go from the Square in Wilkes-Barre to Hotel Sterling. Incidentally, it is only one block from the Square to the hotel.

Since when has Jo Fice been chewing? Does she spit, too?

That Lt. from Panama sure looked nifty, Parry! How does it feel to be with him after two and one-half years?

Florence Miskowitz says there isn't enough of Hitler to hold all of the shots that the girls would enjoy taking at him.

Is Mary Ruth making a collection of fraternity pins?

The education for the future generation is being well taken care of by that certain club. It seems as if they are saving pennies for Junior.

Joyce Hay made the headlines. Yes, she was in the movies. She made a wonderful Mickey Mouse in Visual Education class. But, tell me, why didn't it blush?

B. B. seems to have all of the Navy running after her. Gee, it must be nice to be popular.

NEW C. G. A. VICE-PRESIDENT

The members of C. G. A. on March 15, elected Edward J. Manley Vice-President of the Association for the remainder of the year.

He replaces Joanna Fice, who is now officially acting in the capacity of President.

As Vice-President, Manley will be a member ex officio of all standing council committees and will appoint any new chairmen necessary to fill new or vacated committee heads.

He will act as president in any absence of Miss Fice.

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LIFE WITH UNCLE

BY B. W. KANE

Greetings From the President



To Our Bloomsburg Boys in Service:

Through the columns of the Maroon and Gold we hope to keep in touch with all of those who have gone out from our college campus to do their bit for Bloomsburg.

Our Naval Flight Instructors Program is developing rapidly and we expect to have further Naval Programs in the future.

The ties of friendship and college life bind us together, even though we may be many miles apart, and it is good to have this opportunity to let you know that your Alma Mater is engaged in Education for Fighting as well as Education for Freedom.

Let us hear from you and we shall be glad to publish your letters in this column so that others may know where you are and what you are doing.

May you ever look back upon Bloomsburg as one of the places to which you will be glad to return when this conflict is past is the fervent wish of

Harvey A. Andrus

HARVEY A. ANDRUS, President

"This Changing World"

Lt. Ben E. Hancock.

Seeing in the paper where Bernie Pufnak was inducted reminded me of the bull sessions six of us students who boarded at Jim Berry's place at Chestnut Avenue and Fifth Street used to have. Only two years ago the six of us—Bernie, Vince Husovsky, Ralph Crocarno, Joe Sworin, Vic Turini, and myself—used to wonder where we'd be two years hence. It's strange to see—Vic was killed in Florida over a year ago, Ralph is "somewhere in England," Vince is in the Pacific, we think, and the other three at yet on U. S. soil, Joe in Virginia as a warrant officer, Bernie in Virginia, and me here.

I'm in a headquarters battery in one of three battalions belonging to a regiment (anti-aircraft) engaged in providing security for the Pratt-Whitney airplane plant, Hamilton Propellor, Colt Firearms, and a few smaller concerns. It's getting rather

monotonous though, as I've been here two months already.

On and Off the Beam

Calisthenics are making a new soldier out of me.

When I was a puny, flat-chested civilian with almost no red corpuscles, a mere 30-yard sprint to catch the 8:23 bus always brought black spots dancing before my eyes. But now when I double-time it off somewhere in line of duty, the spots are in technicolor. I attribute this change in my physical condition to calisthenics.

Every time I hear a soldier complain about being required to torture his muscles by the numbers, I tell him the story of the man I used to be and the man I am now. For I was such a miserable physical specimen of a civilian that life insurance agents never jammed their feet in my door. They considered me a bad risk. Women would offer me seats on

trolley cars, and once a child tugged at her mother's skirts and shrieked, "Mamma, a ghost!" Mamma inspected my pallor. "No, dear," she said, "that's just a man who doesn't take calisthenics and cold showers."

Every week before Memorial Day, the mailman brought me dignified pamphlets titled, "Man's Brief Moment—Prepare Now," which seemed to be suggestions to buy tombstones on the easy payment plan.

I didn't know it then, but I felt awful.

My Transformation from weakling to Superman began last June at Camp Gordon Meade when a Greek god in white pants vaulted upon a platform and blared:

"The Army's gonna make new men out of you. Now at the count of two raise both feet off the ground and exhale. Quickly."

That night I put my muscles to bed one by one, but most of them had insomnia.

But that was 2,575,000 deep knee bends ago. The Greek god was right.

I am a changed man, and I feel fine because I know calisthenics make you feel fine. It said so on the bulletin board.

There has been some criticism that my posture is not military, for the deep knee bends have me walking around in a permanent crouch. This is misunderstood by kindly passersby who occasionally offer me cigarettes. "Have one of mine," they proffer. "Don't resort to the gutter."

Just like those combination corkscrew, meat cleaver, nail file, and complete surgical kit badgets that street salesmen vend, Army calisthenics have almost undreamed of practical applications. The exercises do much more for the soldier than build his body beautiful. Life tomorrow will be easier and more purposeful because of calisthenics.

The sometimes sneered at hop straddle, for example, can be used to keep the soldier warm in Alaska or to swat tsetse flies in Africa. I find the bicycle ride kick an extremely effective reveille maneuver to remove the blanket from my sleepy body. Placing clothing to the right teaches tidiness. The soldier who takes his neck exercises seriously is an odds-on favorite to win Halloween apple bobbing contests.

Perhaps the deep breathing exercises are the most important of all. For they teach the soldier to swallow what he has to swallow.

Service Parade. H. H. H.

"Not a Drop to Drink"

Pvt. Robert Vanderslice.

If things continue to be as quiet as they are now, I will go down to look at the University.

Here where I stay there's a French girl who can speak fairly good English, and she said children start to school when they are three.

Although I never took French, I can understand and speak a little of it now.

It's next to impossible to eat a meal in a restaurant here; good drinking water is hard to get, too. Water is something that is never taken internally and very seldom used externally.

Outside of these few bad features, this is a nice place.

Before That Tan

A/C/C Pvt. Robert L. Bunge.

Things are fine down here except that the sun is too hot for my face. While on the drill field—we drill on

the golf course—I got a bad sun burn. Ted Jurasik was on the field today, and last week we saw some of the other fellows.

This is the third hotel we've been at since we arrived in Miami. Of course, we must keep our rooms "spic and span" every day.

"After That What?"

Pvt. Carl A. Berninger.

I arrived here at Miami Beach in the Army Air Corps where I'll have eighteen days of basic training before beginning my work.

End of 4-H

Men over 38 lost their special draft status this week. Local boards were ordered to place no more men 38-45 in class 4-H, and to transfer those now in 4-H to regular classifications: 1-A, 2-B, etc. Implications of the order could only be guessed at; but a chief aim appeared to be to induce men over 38 to go into agriculture. (Men over 38 who take up farming before May 1 go into farm deferment classes).

Charles P. Taft, assistant director of the office of defense health and welfare services, hinted that all men in class 3-A (18-38, with dependents) would be inducted by mid-summer. Service Parade.

Attention Harry

Robert P. Martin S 2/C.

Even though it was only for one day, I really enjoyed getting back on B. S. T. C.'s campus.

I would like to hear from Harry Reitz, who, if he doesn't write, will have to find himself a new "roomie" to bunk with at "Bloom" when this war is over. (Printed at Bob's request).

Just Around the Corner

A/C/C Pvt. Theodore Jurasik.

As you probably know, I'm at the Atlantis Hotel, right on Miami Beach. I'm living in a room with four other boys—its all very nice—have our private toilet and bath.

However, we're not in very long to enjoy it. We rise at 4:30 and retire at 9:00 P. M.—and we have a very nice full schedule to fill.

The boys in the Air Corps from college are only three blocks away from me, and I get around to an occasional talk with them when I have a free evening.

Answer to Last Week's Question

What is the "cone of silence?"

Answer: The area above a radio range station which indicates proximity of the airport.

This Week's Question

What is a pilot chute?

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