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The Octofoil, February 1948

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

VOLUME 1
W. J. CLOUSEN
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
BUILDING 8-8
PETERSONS UNIT
JOHN J. CLOUSEN

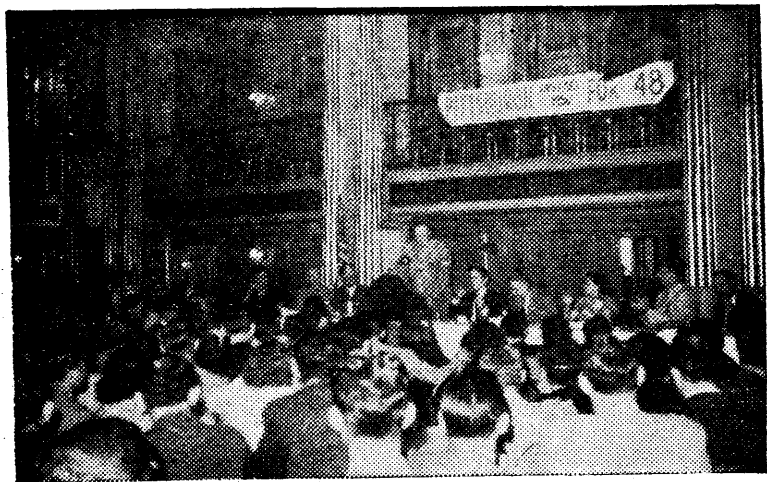
THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year, 60 cents
Single Copy, 10 cents

FEBRUARY, 1948

FEB. 8 WILL BE BIG DAY FOR DETROIT

BE A PART AT PHILADELPHIA



Another of the unposed banquet shots made by William Hilton, Pittsburgh Chapter, at the Columbus Reunion. General Eddy has just been presented and is before the microphone, having left the vacant chair between Walter F. Heer and Mrs. Henry S. Rigby, Jr. Evidently he got off on his talk to a good start because the rest of the group are all smiling. Hilton loaned these photos to The Octofoil in an effort to portray to you members who have missed the past two Reunions just what you will be missing if you fail to show up in Philadelphia in July this year.

RIGBY ON THE NIGHT PATROL

INSTEAD OF RIGHT SHOULD-
DERING ARMS—IT'S ROCK-
ING THE BABY NOW.

Coming to The Octofoil during the Christmas rush was a neat little announcement, clasped together in sections with a dainty piece of white ribbon. This announcement advises that on December 23, 1947, Mary Ingrid Rigby made her appearance as the greatly appreciated Christmas gift of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Snowden Rigby.

Now that Henry has to patrol the nursery floor pretty regularly during the wee small hours of the morning, it looks like those Philadelphia fellows will be forced to dig up a substitute captain for the next few days, any way. Congratulations, Henry — to both you and Ruthie.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Stan Cohen a Married Man

Here The Octofoil crew have all been pulling their hair wondering why don't we hear something about the Entertainment plans for Greater New York Chapter's next meeting usually arranged by Stan Cohen. Then Jordan Bierman, formerly Sp. Trps. Hq. and now living at 256 E. 37th St., Brooklyn 3, N. Y., writes the following letter:

Stanley Cohen, formerly of Special Service, was married to Heda Rosen on December 21, 1947, at Newark, N. J.

Chaplain Max B. Wall, formerly of Special Troops Hq. 9th Inf. Div., living at present in Burlington, Vt., officiated. The newlyweds are honeymooning at Miami, Fla. Will reside at 292 Danforth Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Q—Can you tell me what the deadline is for a disabled veteran to apply for one of the specially equipped automobiles?

A—The last date on which applications can be approved is June 30, 1948.

Report From the 9th Div. Historian

BALTIMORE, MD.—(Special to THE OCTOFOIL)—The status of the Ninth Division History, "Eight Stars to Victory," at the beginning of 1948 showed that of the 110,000 words of the preliminary draft text then written, over 30,000 words were in the hands of the final proofreaders while another 66,000 words were out to various members of the History Committee for checking on operational accuracy.

NEW TYPE MAPS

The new type of Schematic Sketch Maps (an exclusive origination for "Eight Stars to Victory") will enable even the least military minded mother or wife to understand the various operations of the Ninth Division in combat. Furthermore, the text has been put together so that families of the deceased, as well as former members, will be able to understand and relive the Ninth's story.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

CASEY REALLY PUTTING ON AN EFFECTIVE DRIVE

Joseph T. Casey, 8621 Colfax Detroit 4, Mich., temporary secretary of the Greater Detroit Chapter sends New Year greetings to former members of the Ninth Division everywhere.

When Joe sent in his 1948 dues he also enclosed an additional 50c for five extra copies of the January Octofoil. He says he feels sure he can get five new members for the Greater Detroit Chapter by putting a copy of The Octofoil in the non-members hands. Joe was sent 10 copies instead of five.

When a guy is willing to pay for The Octofoil in order to try and secure new members for the Association, that IS NEWS—and Joe deserves a big pat on the back.

Any of the Caseys left in Old Erin need never be ashamed of the fighting spirit being displayed by this lad—truly one who is living up to that fighting name.

Christmas Spirit Brings Memories to Bob Woodside

It isn't often Bob Woodside, 207 S. Doxstater Ave., Rome, N. Y., feels the urge to grab his pen and write a letter to The Octofoil, but when he does Bob puts his whole heart into the job. Bob is a hard worker for the Association and was formerly attached to Co. B, 60th Inf. Parts of his letter follows:

Mr. Paul S. Plunkett, Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Paul: Christmas time is here again, time when we think back through the years.

I am neglectful with my correspondence but at Christmas time I get to thinking of all my acquaintances and feel in my heart I want to express my true feeling.

OLD PHOTOS

Going through my photograph album I run across old clippings from a Charlotte, N. C., newspaper, dated Dec. 23, 1941.

Tells of we who were fortunate enough to be pulling guard duty there.

We were down in the dumps, as we all would like to have been home for the holidays.

The people of Charlotte got together and invited us all to their home and a good old-fashioned Christmas dinner.

It was one of those bright spots in our Army career; the hospitality shown, made, what seemed to be a dull Christmas, one that will always remain sacred in my own heart.

This first Christmas away from home will never be forgotten.

DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS

The second Christmas was a lot different but one that will always be remembered.

This was our first on foreign soil, back in the old cork grove, near Port Lyautey.

Vin rouge, champagne and a carton of cigarettes. In its way, this was a good Christmas, considering where we were.

RIGBY JOINS CO. B

Everyone was in "high spirits," including our new shavetail, Henry Rigby—a better officer never lived.

I often think of how I crawled out of my pup tent, only to find I was numb from my toes up.

Remembering back, it must have been a sight seeing me, trying to salute. For some reason I couldn't find my forehead, so consequently I nearly knocked myself over.

No, I didn't get a court martial. If I did it was while I was still full of vin rouge.

It is these little instances that makes me want to help the Ninth Division Association. A better bunch of fellows never existed—we all took the bitter with the sweet and swore by each other.

GOOD FELLOWSHIP

How many times I think of the good fellowship that prevailed in the Ninth. Too bad there isn't more like this group; how much more enjoyable life would be.

After the holidays I am going on a drive and get a lot of those Joes up this way to join our growing ranks. If I am turned down I am going to know why. I have not been persuasive enough; but starting the New Year, I intend to go all out.

Sincerely,
BOB WOODSIDE.

SECOND MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 11th OFFICERS ELECTED AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE SELECTED.

ORDER SUPPLY CURRENT ISSUE OF OCTOFOILS TO PASS OUT TO NON-MEMBERS AT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY, 1948, 2 P. M., VETS' ADMIN. BLDG.

Unless The Octofoil is way "off the beam" the Greater Detroit Chapter, now in its infancy, is going to be the Chapter that is second to none before many moons—and much of the credit will be due to the untiring efforts of Joe Casey, 8621 Colfax, Detroit 4, Mich.

At the second meeting of the Greater Detroit Chapter, on Jan. 11, officers were elected by the large group of members present, and an entertainment committee was formed to welcome all Michigan members to the showing of the Ninth Division combat films on Sunday, February 8.

WOJTAS' MISSUS WANTS RECORDS KEPT STRAIGHT

Vic Wotjas' charming little wife has turned into a rabid little Ninth Division Association booster and supporter of The Octofoil but she doesn't want any misunderstanding about Vic's diary that is being run serially in The Octofoil.

In a very interesting letter to The Octofoil recently, Mrs. Wotjas, among other things, has this to say: "In Vic's diary he quite frequently says: 'I received a letter from Jennie Depa.' Well, that Jennie Depa happened to have been who is the present Mrs. Vic Wotjas."

GETS A LOT OF MAIL

During the holidays, Mrs. Wotjas says Vic got many greeting cards from former Co. L 60th boys who have been reading his narrative in The Octofoil. Some of those mentioned by Mrs. Wotjas was Walter Pasch, Adrian DeDecker, W. R. Sanderson, Joy Dennison and others. She says it looks like she'll have to get herself a secretary if the volume of mail increases. But they like it—both of them. Keep dropping them a line you Co. L 60th guys.

Mrs. Wotjas says Chester (Cannon Ball) Sienkewicz, originally Co. L man, but later a Co. B man drops over for a game of pinochle and a "bull" session at intervals.

VIC SENDS CHECK TO HELP GOLD STAR MOTHERS AND DADS AT PHILADELPHIA

Shortly after The Octofoil received Mrs. Wotjas fine letter, a short note came from Vic enclosing a check for \$5 and asking that it be credited to the fund earmarked for the entertainment of Gold Star Mothers and Dads in Philadelphia at the Reunion.

The note confides there'll be an addition to that fine family about April. They have a 14-month-old daughter now—but decided she looked too lonesome crawling around on the floor by herself.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

NOTICE

Remember, fellows, you remained on The Octofoil list all last year even though you did not pay 1947 dues until the latter part of the year. The Columbus Reunion ordered that. But this year 1948 it will be different. If you do not have your 1948 dues in before March 1st, 1948, your name will be taken off The Octofoil list. Why take a chance? Pay your dues today!

VERY ENTHUSIASTIC

The newly formed Chapter is very enthusiastic, and the meeting was very interesting and lively. Plans for the first social event were discussed at length, and every effort is being made to assure members and their families a very pleasant Sunday afternoon, the wives or girl friends, and the immediate family of every veteran of the Ninth Division are all welcome, and refreshments are to be served after the showing of the movies.

SPECIAL INVITATION

A special invitation is being sent to members who live in Northern and Western Michigan, offering to make hotel reservations for the night before if it is necessary. Robert De Sandy, Gene Brennan and Joseph Bell are working together to make sure that the first social event of the Greater Detroit Chapter provides a welcome opportunity for all Michigan members to visit with each other and to see the combat films.

704 E. JEFFERSON

The time is 2:00 p. m., Sunday afternoon, February 8, at the Veterans' Administration Building, 704 E. Jefferson, in downtown Detroit, is the place where all veterans of the Ninth are to meet and bring their families. Tell your secretary! Tell your wife! Mark that date on the calendar! Be there!

NEW OFFICERS

Harold Perry of Wyandotte, is the newly elected President, and Barney Tobacco, of Rumulus, is Vice-President; Joe Casey, of Detroit, is Secretary-Treasurer.

WORKING DILIGENTLY

The officers are working diligently so that the Greater Detroit Chapter can provide the opportunity for Michigan members and their families to again share the unforgettable ties of friendship and comradeship that made the Ninth the best. A committee was also formed so that several members of the Ninth can visit the family of each veteran of the Ninth who is being brought home to rest in peace.

CONTACT THE SECRETARY

The Secretary-Treasurer will be glad to furnish any further information, and to welcome those 1948 dues and the initiation fees for all those new members of the Detroit Chapter.

Just drop a line to JOE CASEY, 8621 COLFAX, DETROIT 4, MICHIGAN.

A GREAT TIME PROMISED

The Greater Detroit Chapter promises a pleasant Sunday afternoon—so be there to share it—your Wolverines!

THE OCTOFOIL

EDITORIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES, WASHINGTON, D. C.
(Printed monthly at 337 S. High St., Room 318, Columbus, O.)
Form Cards 3578 should be sent to P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C.

HENRY S. RIGBY, *President*
MAJOR GENERAL DONALD A. STROH, *First Vice-President*
WALTER J. MAHON, *Second Vice-President*
BONNIE C. NEASE, *Third Vice-President*
CHARLES O. TINGLEY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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Published each month by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News articles, feature stories, photographic or art material from members will be welcomed and every effort will be made to return photographic and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to The Octofoil, 337 South High Street, Room 318, Columbus, Ohio.

Extract from the certificate of incorporation of the Ninth Infantry Division Association: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the Ninth Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to members and former members of the Division."

Advertising Rates will be furnished upon request. Write Paul S. Plunkett, 337 South High Street, Room 318, Columbus, Ohio.

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Additional entry at Columbus, Ohio.

VOLUME 3 FEBRUARY, 1948 NUMBER 2

MAIL NOTES OF INTEREST THAT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE OCTOFOIL DIRECT TO THE PUBLICATION OFFICE HEREAFTER—337 S. HIGH ST., ROOM 318, COLUMBUS, OHIO. TELEPHONE: MAIN 6998. IT WILL EXPEDITE HANDLING AND MORE NEARLY ASSURE YOU OF PUBLICATION IF RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.

OCTOFOIL IS NON-POLITICAL

Founders of the Ninth Infantry Division Association very wisely decreed that the Association must forever function as an unbiased, non-partisan organization for the mutual benefit of ALL the members. The Octofoil being an integral part of the Association is expected to function likewise.

But when saboteurs attempt to move in and stultify the effectiveness of our country's military defense program, it is not partisan politics to take a stand—but just plain, common decency and good Americanism.

The proposal before Congress for military training of American youths is of vital importance to each and every member of the Association and its passage is necessary for the self-preservation of we individuals and our country as a whole.

How well members of the Association can remember replacements brought into Fort Bragg on the eve of that long boat ride to the African coast. How vivid is the memory of those youngsters who were taught to roll field packs aboard ship—very few had ever been on maneuvers or had even so much as pitched a pup tent. Their confusion while in combat not only caused the unnecessary loss of their own lives but endangered the lives of countless hundreds of seasoned troops.

It is the fervent prayer of The Octofoil that no son, no younger brother of any Association member or any Association members themselves ever have to go back into the living hell of combat. But it may be necessary—and if it ever is—by the eternal God those who have to go MUST be prepared to protect themselves—and that can not be done overnight at the last minute in some training camp.

It behooves each and every member of the Association to let his Congressional representative know, whether he be Republican, Democrat or Mug-Wump that the hypocrisy of the Fascist-controlled organizations such as the America First Committee, the disgusting yelps of the sob sisters in the WCTU must be ignored. These same destructive influences almost caused the complete destruction of our country and its institutions previous to Pearl Harbor.

The vultures loitering in the Washington lobbies stabbing the innards of America with their obstructionist tactics in an effort to sabotage plans to keep our country prepared for any eventuality that may arise are offensive to the delicate olfactories of a self-respected buzzard.

We must be prepared at all times to meet any undesirable situation that may arise. It Can Be Done! Members of the Association as ex-G.I.s can be a very potent factor in seeing that Congress is not dominated by a demagogic lobby.

No Dues—No Octofoil

Philly, Us Is On Our Way - —By Plunkett



"OH, THAT'S HINKLE AND HIS WAR BRIDE..."
Evidently Good Old Hinkle didn't "Dream of a White Mistress" quite hard enough.

Now Hear This !!!

This is your information service. Questions furnished by you will be answered to the best of our ability with the facilities at our disposal. Service questions regarding you or your dependents are especially welcome. Please address: NOW HEAR THIS, Ninth Infantry Division Association, Box 1704, Washington (13) D. C. Be sure to include your name and address. However, initials only will be used when publishing the question and answer.

Q. Will my failure to report for a physical examination, ordered by VA, affect my payments of compensation?

A. Yes. Upon failure to report for examination, without adequate reason, an award of disability compensation is suspended. Where the veteran subsequently reports for physical examination, retroactive payments over the intervening period may be precluded unless the evidence clearly establishes that the disability, in fact, existed to a compensable degree during such period.

Q. Is the amount of my disability compensation in any way affected by the amount of money I earn or receive from other sources?

A. No.

Q. If I have entitlement time left after I finish my job-training course, may I enroll in another job-training course or go to school for the remainder of my entitlement?

A. With prior approval from Veterans Administration, you may use any remaining entitlement either for job-training or for educational training.

TIME TO PLAN FOR PHILADELPHIA

The hustle and bustle which is a part of the Christmas and New Year holiday season has passed into history. Members of the Association can now plan wisely for the Third Annual Reunion to be held in Philadelphia this summer.

When the fighting was rugged and the state-side hypocritical yells were the loudest, the boys in the front lines, their relatives and the whole cock-eyed world was told with newspaper headlines they could take the whole world by the tail—it was theirs, lock, stock and barrel. A different attitude now, on the part of the flag wavers. Many of our members will never be financially able to attend a Reunion unless Reunions are held in various strategic sections of the country from time to time.

Those of our members who are fortunate enough to lick the high cost of living to the extent of keeping body and soul together and by economical living lay away a few dollars should by all means plan to be in Philadelphia at the Third Annual Reunion this summer. It is not a squandering of hard-earned money to meet jointly once a year with those with whom we all have so much in common. As Time Marches On the "ties that bind" should become closer and closer. With no one else does a Ninth Division combat veteran feel as free to "let his hair down" as with a group of his comrades. We only pass this way in life one time—why "muff" an opportunity to relieve a few days of our Army life with those who are closer to one another than anyone else in this world outside of a member's immediate family.

Greed and selfishness still dominate the minds of many great powers in this great country of ours. Many obstacles will have to be hurdled by individual members of the Association in order to survive the competitive "dog eat dog" practices again noticeable on the industrial horizon. In numbers there is strength—not only can members of the Association turn back the calendar for a few pleasant, social hours with buddies in Philadelphia but their united efforts can be pooled to such an extent that each and every one in some way or another can adapt themselves to be of mutual help to one another individually and collectively in months and years to come.

Figure that budget closely and if at all possible earmark a few dimes each week to be applied on a visit to the Third Annual Reunion in Philadelphia. You will never regret it and it will pay dividends and be a worthwhile investment.

No Dues—No Octofoil

SECY. TINGLEY IS 'SNOWED UNDER'

Secretary Tingley asks The Octofoil to insert a notice to the membership and ask them to be patient with him if they have written him in recent weeks and received no answer.

He explains the heavy detail work that has fallen on him because of dues renewals and re-making the mailing list has caused him to become "snowed under," but if you guys will be patient with him he promises to get every last one of you answered just as quickly as he can.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

What About An Advertisement For Octofoil?

It seems as though some of our members might have business connections with a company who handle a product that an advertisement in The Octofoil would help push their sales.

The 60c a year subscription barely pays the postage on the paper and each year the Budget Committee has to acknowledge a deficit.

Mike Puzak, member of the Board of Governors, at the recent meeting in Philadelphia proposed an intensive campaign during 1948 in an order to secure a few advertising contracts for The Octofoil. For a paper as widely circulated and as loyally supported as is The Octofoil, certainly there is some manufacturer who could profit by inserting a series of ads in The Octofoil for the nominal price of \$2.50 per column inch.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

PHILLY LAD SAYS GROUP SHOULD HOLD MEETINGS

Just as regular as day follows night The Octofoil's friend in the City of Brotherly Love sends in his \$1 for the fund to entertain Gold Star Mothers and Dads at the Reunion this summer.

Still styling himself "Anonymous," the Joe advises he has sent out 50 cards in his campaign and proposes to have some 300 printed and to mail them out at an early date, and asks for permission to place The Octofoil's return address on them. That's okay Joe—the least The Octofoil can do is co-operate with your commendable efforts.

WANTS A MEETING

In commenting on the Chapter situation in Philadelphia, the lad very pointedly asks:

I attended one or two of the meetings in Philadelphia; officers were elected at these meetings—and they can call a meeting if President Rigby is too busy at the present time. How about it, fellows? Let's get on the ball!

ANONYMOUS.
(Ed. Note: Give 'em hell, Joe.)
No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

IF YOU CAN DO SO ANSWER PLEAS OF THESE RELATIVES

The Army Times issue of Dec. 6th printed these notices:

STROWS, 1st Sgt. Walter C., Co. D, 39th Inf., killed near Randazzo, Sicily, Aug. 11, 1943. Letters from former members of his outfit, and information about his combat service and circumstances of death requested by brother Raymond C. Strows, 1619 W. Mitchell St., Milwaukee 4, Wis.

KRAFT, Pfc. Armand M., ASN 39298790, 60th Inf. Reg., 9th Inf. Div. Letters from comrades who served with him will comfort mother, Anita M. Kraft, 3026 Inez St., Los Angeles 23, Calif.

BRUYERDORF, Lt. Johnnie, formerly Ninth Inf. Div. Letters from on about him eagerly awaited by Mr. and Mrs. Odelon Du-bois, Rt. 2, Box 15, Kaplan, La.

DEMKOWITZ, John, last heard from in Germany during December, 1946, with Co. B, 47th Inf., 9th Div.; former resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. Present address requested by Joseph Gianna, 100 Madison St., New York 2, N. Y.

MINUTES OF RECENT BOARD MEETING

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER'S NEW PUBLICATION CREATING LOT OF INTEREST AND ACTIVITY

JIM KELLY COMES THROUGH AGAIN WITH AN HOUR'S RUN OF INTERESTING MOVIES AT THE REGULAR MEETING—OTHER NEWSY NOTES.

Victor A. Campisi, P. O. Box 892, Boston, Mass., publicity director for the New England Chapter, sends in his regular interesting report, and as per usual, sends it in plenty early, thus helping prevent the Octofoil printers from going "nuts" under the strain of receiving all the copy or much of it just before or right after the deadline. Thanks, Vic.

BOSTON, MASS.—The success of the New England Chapter's new monthly mimeographed newspaper, "Sound-Off," was reflected not only by the popular enthusiasm which it was received, but also by the appearance of a dozen new faces at the monthly meeting held Tuesday, 30 December, 1947, at the First Corps Cadet Armory, Arlington Street, Boston.

Suggested last month by John McLaughlin as an instrument "to strengthen fraternal bonds and to keep the members informed," the paper has already proven itself in its first issue as a superlative agent for publicity and recruiting. The Chapter now looks forward to a new year of increased activity and membership.

TEMPORARY NAME

The paper's name, "Sound-Off," is temporary, pending the outcome of a contest in which names for the new monthly newspaper and reasons for their selection are to be submitted to the Chapter, postmarked not later than 12 midnight, 25 January, 1948. A crisp, new five dollar bill will be awarded as first prize.

The contest winner will be judged by the newspaper committee at the next monthly meeting, 27 January, 1948, at the First Corps Cadet Armory, Arlington Street, Boston. Members of the committee are ineligible for the prize and other contestants, to be eligible, must—

1. Be paid-up members of the Association.
2. Be present when the winner is announced.

KELLY "ON THE BALL"

Jim Kelly did it again! The meeting was preceded by an hour's run of interesting movies procured through the efforts of General Jim, chairman of the entertainment committee. The selected short subjects were:

1. An educational movie quiz.
 2. Billiards, featuring Willie Hoppe, an outstanding champion.
 3. Football, featuring Coach Earl Blaik's great Army team and its co-stars, Davis and Blanchard.
- The outstanding attraction of the evening, however, were U. S. Army Signal Corps films showing the invasion of Normandy. More films are on tap for the next meeting.

CONNELLY TALKS ON DUES

Following the movies, President Martin D. Connelly opened the meeting with a lengthy discourse on dues. He reminded all members that the 1948 dues are \$3.50 and payable to the New England Chapter, Ninth Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 892, Boston, Mass., by cash, check or money order. Of this amount, he said, \$1.00 is retained by the local Chapter and the balance of \$2.50 is forwarded to national headquarters in Washington, D. C. And from the \$2.50, the national headquarters deducts 60c for a year's subscription to "The Octofoil," he added.

RESOLUTION

A general discussion on the subject of dues followed and it was resolved that:

The New England Chapter urges all Association members and the non-members who are eligible to join, to pay their 1948 dues through their local chapters so that the local organizations may benefit financially and the individual benefit through increased activities of the Chapter as a direct result of increased finances. The whole is only as strong as its component parts. The local chapters must be built-up and actively supported so that the national organization will survive as a healthy body.

SMOKER

Tentative plans were announced for a smoker to be held in the near future.

A committee of four was named as the Chapter voted to make an early start in preparation for its gala annual banquet to be held on April 19 at a local hotel regarded by many as Boston's best. Committee members are:

1. James E. Flanagan.
2. Sylvester M. Byrne.
3. Simon Garber.
4. Henry H. Handelman.

REMEMBER THE DATE

It is hoped Association members will keep this date in mind and make every effort to be present because an attendance of not less than 200 is required in order to make the affair a success. Details of the banquet will be announced at a later date.

TWO MORE BURIALS

Two more repatriated Ninth Division war dead were visited by the Chapter, raising to seven the number of such men to whom the Chapter has paid its solemn respects. They were:

Edward P. Wysocki, 47th Inf., at Shrewsbury, Mass.
Victor Gemelli, 15th Engrs., at Dorchester, Mass.

SISTER APPRECIATES

A letter received from Marie E. Miethe of Dorchester, Mass., sister of the deceased Francis J., 15th Engrs., shows the keen appreciation felt by the families of the repatriated Ninth Division war dead visited by the Chapter. Addressed to President Martin D. Connelly, it reads:

Dear Martin:

My family and I are deeply grateful to you and the boys who acted as pallbearers for Frank.

These few words can never express our gratitude for your kindness in helping us over the last few trying days.

We would appreciate your thanking the boys of the Ninth Division for their thoughtfulness and sympathy.

We would be only too glad to have you or any of the boys drop in to see us at any time.

Sincerely,
(Signed) MARIE E. MIETHE.

Another warm and sincere letter of appreciation was received from the family of the deceased James J. Young, 47th Inf., Dorchester, Mass. This letter also paid high tribute and appreciation to Rev. Edward T. Connors, former Div. Arty. Chaplain, who conducted rosary services at the Young wake and who furnished considerable spiritual solace for the bereaved.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ronald B. Murphy, formerly of the 15th Engrs., is reported ill with the flu. The Chapter wishes him a speedy and complete recovery.

Dame Rumor has it that President Connelly's wife is infatigating. Better buy a lot of cigars, Marty. The Chapter's getting bigger every day.

Vic Campisi, formerly of the 60th Inf., has gone the way of all flesh. His Christmas Day engagement to a Somerville belle was recently announced.

Former 60th Inf. men who have not yet received their copies of the Regimental History may receive same by writing to President Martin D. Connelly, New England Chapter, Ninth Inf. Div. Association, P. O. Box 892, Boston, Mass. Enclose 10c postage for mailing.

Association members and former Ninth Division men are reminded this Chapter meets on the last Tuesday of every month at the First Corps Cadet Armory, Arlington St., and Columbus Ave., Boston.

VICTOR A. CAMPISI,
Director of Publicity.
No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Q. Is the stepchild of a veteran entitled to the same benefits as a natural child?

A. Yes, if the stepchild is or was a member of the veteran's household.

Bill Finley's Mother Makes a Request; Someone Help Her

Printed on this page is the picture of the grave marker sent in by Mrs. John Finley, 1046 S. Water St., Decatur, Ill. The cut lines are self-explanatory. Among other things said in Mrs. Finley's letter was a request that thanks be given to the many boys who so thoughtfully remembered the Finley family Christmas. Bill certainly would have liked that, Mrs. Finley writes.

LIKES THE OCTOFOIL

The Octofoil is good reading and we always look it over good so as not to miss anything.

SEEKS CHAPLAIN'S NAME

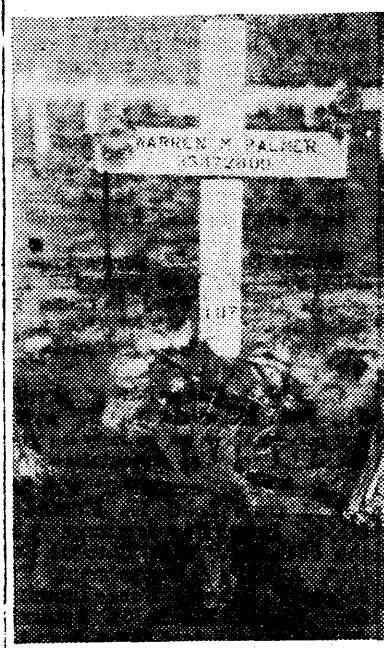
Mrs. Finley asks who was Chaplain of I Co., April 1, 1945, but she fails to mention the regiment and The Octofoil proofreader detected the omission too late to check with Secretary Tingley and learn what regiment Bill was in. But you fellows who knew Bill Finley will know what regiment she refers to and probably will be able to help her out.

Mrs. Finley says they would like to hear from Captain Dana because Billy really thought a lot of the captain.

Certainly some of you fellows are in position to give her this information about the Chaplain even with the mentioned omission.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Take Good Look



Mrs. John Finley, 1046 S. Water St., Decatur, Ill., sends this photo to The Octofoil. The soldier grave depicted is Warren M. Parker, 3572809; Grave No. 187. Mrs. Finley's son, Bill, is buried in this same cemetery, Margraten Cemetery, in Holland. Mrs. Finley hopes some of our members know where a near relative of Warren Palmer lives in the United States and will write giving her that information, in order that the good people who are keeping the graves so immaculate, can write to them. Examination of the photo under a magnifying glass will disclose vividly the tenderness with which the flowers were arranged.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Pfc. Ed J. Culhane's Buddies Should Send a Line to His Mother

Mrs. Nora Culhane, 29 Maple Ave., Waterbury, Conn., mother of Pfc. Edward J. Culhane, was a member of Co. E, 39th, and was killed July 21, 1944, in Normandy, wrote a very sweet letter to The Octofoil, asking if she might be permitted to subscribe in order to keep up with some of Ed's buddies she had heard him speak of so often.

Ed is buried in the American cemetery in France, Ste. Mere Eglise No. 2, Plot S, Row 8, Grave 152.

It would make Mrs. Culhane very happy if some of Ed's old buddies would drop her a few lines.

GEN. STROH, WALT MAHON, MAJ. JOE M. WILLIS, JAMES BRUNO, GREATER N. Y. PRES. CAL POLIVY ARE GUESTS.

BOARD ACCEPTS REPORT OF FIANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE; GIVES GLENN O. MOORE, CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE VOTE OF THANKS.

The Tenth Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Room 206, Philadelphia, Pa., on the 10th day of January, 1948, at 1330 hours, EST, pursuant to written notice mailed on December 26, 1947, as provided for in Section 21 of the By-Laws of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Present: Messrs. Henry A. Rigby, Michael Puzak, Frank B. Wade, John H. Whitmore, Paul S. Plunkett, Colonel John G. Van Houten, Donald M. Clarke, Albert Bruchac, Glenn O. Moore and Robert W. Robb, as members of the Board of Governors. Also present: Major General Donald A. Stroh, Walter Mahon, Calvin Polivy, Major Joe M. Willis and James Bruno. Charles O. Tingley acted as recorder.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Henry S. Rigby, at 1330 hours, EST. Charles O. Tingley acted as recorder.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Board of Governors were read by the secretary, discussed and approved as read by the members present.

Colonel John G. Van Houten presented a report on the Ninth Infantry Division History, "Eight Stars to Victory."

Colonel Van Houten explained that arrangements had been made with a Board of Professors at Loyola University to review the final text of the history in order that the book will be grammatically perfect. It was also explained that Captain Mittelman's tour of active duty had been extended for an additional 90-day period, and that it is hoped he will be able to complete the writing of the text during this period after which time it is contemplated he will be given another extension and move his office to Columbus, Ohio, to work with the Heer Printing Co. during the actual printing of the book.

COL. VAN HOUTEN BOSS

After considerable discussion Mr. Bruchac made a motion authorizing Col. Van Houten to use his own methods and discretion in checking on and making suggestions to Captain Mittelman, the Division historian, with reference to the completion of the History. The motion was seconded and passed.

BILL PAID

Colonel Van Houten reported on the status of the bill in the amount of \$901.50, which the Association incurred at the time the lapel buttons were manufactured in Germany. He stated he had received a letter from Germany to the effect bill had been paid and the receipted bill was being mailed to him.

Mr. Tingley reported to the Board the results of the committee meeting held on December 22, in Gen. Eddy's office with respect to the purchase of an Addressograph Machine. This committee, consisting of Gen. Eddy, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Tingley, unanimously approved the purchase of such a machine, together with a set of filing cabinets for the storage of Addressograph plates.

Mr. Robert W. Robb made a motion the Addressograph Machine and filing cabinets be purchased. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Mr. Henry S. Rigby informed the meeting that, in view of the fact the Democratic National Convention was to be held in Philadelphia during the first two weeks of July, it would be necessary for the Association to designate a new date for the 1948 convention. Mr. Rigby explained that the dates of July 29th, 30th and 31st were available. Mr. Robert W. Robb proposed a motion that the dates of July 29, 30 and 31 be accepted. Mr. Whitmore seconded the motion and it was adopted.

Mr. Glenn O. Moore, Chairman of the Finance Budget Committee, presented a proposed budget for the Association covering the period, January 1, 1948, to December 31, 1948. Copy of the budget as approved by the Board of Governors is printed in this issue of The Octofoil.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Robert W. Robb moved the recommendations of the Committee be approved and that the committee be given a vote of thanks.

ARGUE ABOUT EMBLEMS

Considerable discussion was given relative to the proposal that the Association make available to the membership Association emblems in the form of automobile license plates, windshield stickers, etc. The matter was finally concluded with the proposal that Mr. Rigby and Mr. Tingley confer with each other and work out together a suitable plan to make these items available.

OCTOFOIL DISCUSSED

A proposition was offered to make the subscription rate for The Octofoil synonymous with the amount of the annual dues. Mr. Tingley was instructed to confer with the Post Office authorities on this matter to ascertain the postal regulations concerning our present policy and also to find out if the Association was obligated under the present plan to furnish The Octofoil at a subscription rate of 60c to those individuals who are not current in their dues and therefore not considered active members.

PUZAK MAKES A MOTION TO GIVE PLUNKETT MORE TO DO

Mr. Michael Puzak proposed a motion instructing Mr. Plunkett to insert a notice in The Octofoil to the effect that paid advertising be accepted. The motion was seconded and carried.

The proposal for sponsoring a lottery, raffle, or a game of skill was unanimously disapproved.

Mr. Walter Mahon, representing the Illinois Chapter of the 9th Infantry Division Association, presented an invitation to the Association to hold its 1949 convention in Chicago.

GEN. STROH'S SUGGESTION

Gen. Stroh suggested the Association make a study of the feasibility of proposing a national organization of Combat Divisions. Gen. Stroh stated that numerous Division Associations were at the present time having a struggle for existence and he was of the opinion that a national association of combat divisions could be organized which would be of benefit to all concerned. Mr. Bruchac proposed a motion that Gen. Stroh and Mr. Robert W. Robb compose a committee of two to make a survey of the situation and submit their ideas and suggestions to the 1948 annual convention. The motion was seconded and passed.

The president then asked if any further business was to be discussed, and there being none, a motion was made from the floor, seconded and carried, that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting thereupon adjourned at 1630 hours, EST.

CHARLES O. TINGLEY,

NINTH BOYS ALL GETTING AHEAD AS CIVILIANS

THESE SHORT PARAGRAPHS PACK LOTS OF NEWSY NOTES ABOUT BUDDIES FROM 'FRISCO TO MAINE.

PASS THE SHEET ON TO A FORMER 9TH DIVISION MAN WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION; IT MAY HELP HIM DECIDE TO JOIN.

Letter from Earl J. Mickelsen, 1624 Breda Ave., St. Paul 4, Minn., formerly with the 47th Inf., sends his 1947 dues. Earl is now in business with a partner in a store at Forest Lake, Minn., and he is also holding down a job with a Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., as foreman. He hopes to see all of his friends in Philadelphia at the Reunion.

Bill Ogburn, 1717 Parson St., Charlotte, N. C., former First Sgt., Co. L, 49th Inf., writes in stating that he thinks those guys who have not paid their dues should quit "Cold Bricking" and get on the ball.

Letter from Mr. John L. Revis, 2456 Johnson Ave., Bronx Ave., Bronx 63, N. Y., formerly with F Co., 47th Inf., writes in about the History.

R. M. Connolly, Jr., 3331 Hartel Ave., Philadelphia 36, Pa., formerly with the 9th Signal Corps, would like to hear from the old gang.

Albert C. Geist, 1240 W. 31st St., Chicago, Ill., formerly Co. H, 39th Inf., asks for the address of Conrad C. Dillow, former First Lt., Co. H, 39th Inf.

Paul M. Fisher, formerly with Co. C, 60th Inf., now lives at 3131 West 68th St., Los Angeles, California (43).

Don I. Porter, formerly Staff Sergeant, 93rd Recon. Troops, writes in from Pinion, N. Mex. Don would like to hear from any former Special Troops Personnel Clerks. He is still enjoying life as a cowboy.

Melvin Sjaarda, 106 W. 13th St., Holland, Mich., formerly with 60th Inf., writes that his only regret is that The Octofoil is not published often enough.

George P. Ethier, formerly with Co. K, 39th Inf., now lives at 357 Pleasant Ave., St. Paul, Minn. He was recently discharged from the hospital.

Harry B. Oden is now living at Menhagan Island, Me. Harry writes that he hopes to hear and see more of Co. H men of the 39th. On his vacation last fall he visited with Ex-Tech. Sgt. Rex Ford in Kings Mountain, N. C., and also John Curley in Jersey City. They all plan to be in Philadelphia next year.

Mario Orlandi, formerly with Company M, 60th Inf., now living at 53-17 37th Rd., Woodside, N. Y., sends best wishes to all members of the Association.

Kendall W. Guilford, 334 Linwood Ave., Newtonville, Mass., formerly with 9th Signal Corps, writes that he is looking forward to the convention in Philadelphia in 1948.

Letter from Cecil M. Wohlge-muth, now living in Bosworth, Mo., formerly with Co. M, 60th Inf.

Alber Haber, formerly with Hdqtrs. Co., 2d Bn., 47th Inf., now living at 396 Union Ave., Irvington, N. J., sends his regards to all his former buddies and says he will be in Philadelphia for the next Reunion.

Albert Oettinger now lives at 710 Broad St., Wilson 10, N. C., formerly with Hdqtrs. Co., 1st Bn., 47th Inf. Al states he is now attending college at North Carolina State. He attended the Columbus convention and really had a swell time and is looking forward to being in Philadelphia in 1948, and hopes he will see many of his former buddies there.

Letter from Ervin M. Rueden, Route 2, Black Creek, Wis., formerly with the 60th Inf. Ervin is now operating a farm in Wisconsin, and would like to hear from some of the men of the 60th.

Elmer L. Graham, 1512 Bailey Ave., McKeesport, Pa., formerly with 79th Ord. Co., advises of an addition to his family, a baby daughter, and states that with going to school, taking care of the little one and working, he has very little time for any other activities. He really enjoys The Octofoil.

Chester L. Nelson is living at 709 E. Lawson St., St. Paul, Minn. Chester would like to hear from his former buddies in Hdqtrs. Co., 2nd Bn., 47th Inf.

Charles B. Witt, P. O. Box 52, Benton, Texas, writes that he enjoys The Octofoil very much, mainly because it keeps him completely informed as to the whereabouts of his former buddies. He thinks more news from the 84th should be printed.

JOHN FURGAL DIES

A letter from Mrs. Jean Furgal, 176 Selkirk St., Buffalo 10, N. Y., informs of the death of her husband, John Furgal, formerly with A Co., 60th Inf., who was taken suddenly ill six months after being discharged. Mrs. Furgal states that John was wounded on Oct. 11, 1944, in crossing the Rhine River. At one time during the battle he mentioned in a letter to her that he fell and hurt his stomach severely and was bothered with it until a few days before he was wounded. He recovered from his wounds and after being discharged he was taken ill with a stomach disorder and entered a private hospital. Mrs. Furgal applied to the Veterans Administration for proper treatment for her husband but was turned down by the Medical Adm. Div., because they claimed that the stomach disorder was not service-connected. She underwent considerable financial burden due to his illness and is very desirous of being able to obtain some sort of information which may help her in proving to the V.A. that her husband's recent illness and subsequent death due to this stomach disorder were service-connected. If any of our members know anything concerning the time John Furgal sustained injuries to his stomach, please get in touch with his widow.

Letter from Mrs. Hanson and family of 609 E. Jenks Ave., St. Paul, Minn. Mrs. Hanson is very desirous of hearing from any of the buddies of her son, Carl G. Hanson, Staff Sgt., Co. B, 47th Inf., who was killed in action on January 29, 1945.

Charles Scheffell, former Captain with the 39th Inf., is now with Travelers Insurance Co., Branch Office, 5th Floor, Colcord Bldg., 15 N. Robinson St., Oklahoma City 2, Okla. Charlie writes a very interesting letter concerning some of the Ninth men out Oklahoma way. Stanford "Smiley" Downs, formerly of Co. C, 39th Pltn. Leader, is now in school at Oklahoma "U," as is former 1st Lt. Harold Boyd of the 39th Heavy Weapons Co. Boyd is married but Downs is still a lone wolf. Ed Glover, former Lt. of Co. A, 39th Inf., who was taken prisoner at the Meuse River crossing, is now an instructor at Oklahoma A. & M., and getting along in good shape. Former Col. E. E. Stong, of Div. Art. is in the consulting engineering business in Oklahoma City. Charles says that for himself, he ended up at CO of Charlie Company, after spending time in all companies of the 39th, and since returning to the States has been busy raising a family, having two young daughters now, and trying for more. "and if any 9th men are ever here in Oklahoma City they sure are more than welcome to our place at any time," says Charles.

Scheffell also hears now and then from former Lt. Jack Bivins of Co. A, 39th Inf., who is living in Los Angeles, and former Lt. Francis Nolan of C Co., who was recently retired from the Army and is now living in St. Louis.

Charles is now assembling a list of former Ninth men who now live in Oklahoma, and hopes in the near future to have some kind of organization in the area. He says that upon receipt of 50 blank membership applications he will try to send back 50 all filled in. He says the service of publishing the list of War Dead being returned to the U. S. is a great service to all of us and to be sure and keep up the work if further remains are returned. In this way some of us can communicate with the loved ones of those who might have actually fallen near us. I am sure any family would be more than appreciative to get any information as to just how their son met his death.

Willard Norris, Box 702, Huntsville, Tex., was recently sent a list of Ninth Inf. Div. War Dead being returned to the State of Texas, together with a list of members residing in the State of Texas. It was requested that he contact members throughout the State of Texas, asking them to contact the next-of-kin of the Ninth Division War Dead who were being returned and to offer them services in any suitable way. In Willard's answer he stated he had received

the list and had written letters to all of the men in nearby towns. He stated further that he thinks it is an excellent idea and offers his assistance in the future upon such occasions as this.

WAR BRIDE WRITES

Mrs. Iris Maberry, 39 Walnut St., Manchester, N. H., writes: I pride myself that the only nagging I do to my husband is when I nag him to write to the Association to try and find out about some of his old buddies in H Co., 60th. Part of my reason for wanting him to write, is because I knew so many of the boys myself, when they were stationed at Bushfield Barracks in Winchester, England. I was serving with the N.A.A.F.I. on the Camp and ours is another of those Anglo-American romances which turned out very successfully.

These are some of the men my husband (Jack Maberry, Sgt.) would like to hear from: 1st Sgt. Krauser, Dick Million, Capt. West, Jimmy Henderson and Ernie Young. We both eagerly read The Octofoil each month for news of the boys.

Jack re-enlisted in the Army, June, 1946, and is stationed at Grenier Field, Manchester, N. H. Owing to wounds he received in France he was transferred to the Air Corps, but he longs to get back to the 9th Inf. — the best outfit in the U. S. Army.

Last month a little rookie arrived in our family—a son—Robert Thomas.

In closing, I'd like to say that I think this country of yours is wonderful; it is humane, friendly, and more than anxious to do its part for the happiness of the whole world.

If you print this letter, it might make my husband realize I really meant it, when I nagged him about writing.

—From an English G. I. Bride who is very proud of having known the men of the 60th Inf. and grateful for being able to be of service to them during their stay at Bushfield.

Morris S. Kautz, formerly with 34th FA Bn., now with the Kewanee Clean Towel Service, located at 516 W. 5th St., Kewanee, Ill., writes in with regards to the History.

Donald D. Bruce, 48 Mechanics St., Fort Edwards, N. Y., writes for information as to how he goes about joining the Association.

An interesting letter was received from John W. MacIndoe, Major Infantry, formerly with the 60th, now with Tactical Section, Academic Department, The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga. Major MacIndoe returned from overseas just three days too late to make our last Convention but he has plans on being in Philadelphia next year. He says he met Col. Van Houten recently, who brought him up to date on the Association affairs; also he recently saw Lt. Col. Randy Bryant.

William C. Bowen, Jr., formerly Major, Hq., 9th Div. Arty., sends in his 1947 dues and requests his name be removed from the "Drone List." Tingley was pleased to do that Bill. The address is still Avondale Farm, Birdsboro, Pa.

Elbert H. Price, formerly with Co. K, 60th, Mortar Section, now lives at 202 S. Fair St., Champaign, Ill.

O. J. Wakeman, Sr., of 324 Wildwood, Battle Creek, Mich., writes for the address of Chapman W. Clemens, formerly of Hdq. Btry., 84th FA Bn., and expresses the wish to hear from anyone else from that outfit.

William (Buddy) Quinn, 70 Eagle St., Brooklyn 22, N. Y., sends in a negative of the V-E ceremonies in Bernburg, Germany. He was recently in Winos visiting Ex-Lieutenant LeVerne Wascher. He intends to join them at the Philly Reunion in 1948.

Joseph T. Casey, 8621 Colfax, Detroit 4, Mich., and temporary secretary of the Greater Detroit Chapter, reports that 150 letters were sent out to members in Detroit—a fairly good number showed up and a session of good old days and good days ahead for the Greater Detroit Chapter was held. A great amount of enthusiasm was shown and each member present is making it a point to write one member in that area not present at the meeting and try to get him to join the Association.

Lester Erdely, 1134 Stratford

Ave., Bronx 59, N. Y., who was with the 39th Regt. from 1941 to 1944, and was wounded in Normandy, was discharged from the hospital Feb. 2, 1945. He would like very much to hear from some of the boys who served with him.

Salvatore Giunto, formerly of Co. G, and also formerly of 60th Regt. Hdqtrs., now of 125 16th Ave., Newark, N. J., wondered why he had never received news of any kind from the Association until he saw his name listed as one of those "Lost" in The Octofoil, which he received from a former buddy. Salvatore expects to attend the convention in Philly.

C. E. Holman, 204 S. Argyle St., Hamburg, Iowa, writes he is with the Railway Express Agency, owns his home in Hamburg and has two fine boys, 5 and 7 years old. He hopes the Express Agency will not be so rushed that he can't get to Philadelphia in July.

Gerard R. Sullivan, formerly of M Co., 47th Inf., now lives at 1028 Garden St., Hoboken, N. J. Gerard had the luck of running into Captain Rosenfeld, who is well known by all the men of Co. M and 3rd Bn. of the 47th Div. He wishes all former members of Co. M of the 47th as well as those of the 47th Inf. to deposit a stack of correspondence on his doorstep and he promises it will be answered promptly.

John Kohl, Rochester, Ill., Rt. 1, is a former 47th man. John would like to hear from some of the fellows. He has a new 10-lb. son. He plans to see all the gang at the 1948 convention. In the meantime he is hoping for a Middle West Convention in 1949.

M-Sgt. Joseph W. Banton advises he will finish his military career on the 31st of August after 30 years of Army life. Incidentally, Joe deserted the ranks of bachelorhood on Oct. 25, 1947. He'll be at the Reunion in Philadelphia. In the meantime Joe can be reached at Hq. W. Va. Military District, South Charleston, W. Va.

John L. Revis, 2456 Johnson Ave., Bronx 63, N. Y., writes he met a buddy by the name of John J. Rizzo, 15-24 59th St., Brooklyn, in a subway one evening. Rizzo had never been contacted by any of the members of the New York Chapter and would like some information. Revis has some fine pictures taken in England, which he will send to The Octofoil.

John G. Miller, Helena, Mont., wants the names and address of all the men in Montana, who served with the Ninth. He feels there should be enough members to start a Chapter.

Thomas S. Ray, Box 2093, Norman, Okla., writes, he would like to be known that he would like to hear from Capt. Roy J. Smith, formerly of L Co., 60th, and some of the members of the Fifth Plt. of E Co. This Platoon of Colored men relieved L Co. at Remagen Bridge. Ray is studying psychology at the University of Oklahoma.

Leslie B. Copeland, formerly M Co., 39th Regt., now of Ainsworth, Nebr., writes the following: "Would like to hear from any of the fellows of Co. M, 39th that I served with. What has become of Speedy Graves, Rabbit Wyman, Pete Bernier and others. Sharpen the old pencils, boys."

George Heris, formerly Captain Heris, Division Transportation Officer, with 9th QM now lives at 1074 Main St., South Glastonbury, Conn. Since the end of the war George started up a couple of companies in Belgium, The Heris Trading Co. and Heris Agencies, and he also acts as the American coordinating office for some other firms in places such as India, Brazil, England, etc. Incidentally, George is one of the new members the old gang hopes to see in Philly next July.

The remains of Pvt. Joe Klarich were returned to Tacoma, Wash. Funeral services were held at Holy Cross Church on Dec. 22. He was buried with full military honor. This information was sent in by Stanley Rackowski, formerly from M Co., 47th. He wishes to say hello to all the gang. Stanley is living at 1832 E. 29th St., Tacoma, Wash.

Martin D. Cibich, formerly of the 60th Inf., and now living at 10114 La Salle St., Chicago 28, Ill., would like the address of all men who were with the 60th Inf., 8nd Bn., and the Medics attached to H Co. Martin is planning a trip west and hopes to get in touch

with many of his buddies on the way.

N. J. Hennen, with the help of some buddies, is trying to organize a local chapter in St. Paul. So far his plans are progressing nicely and wishes the readers of The Octofoil to know that he lives at 3455 Irving Ave., North, Minneapolis, Minn.

Phillip P. Lightner, formerly of 39th Inf., Co. K, 4th (Weapon Plt.) was wounded in Germany in October of 1945. He would like to hear from some of the fellows of the 4th Plt. Phillip is a junior at Gettysburg College and lives at 343 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, Pa. After his graduation from Gettysburg College he is entering the Lutheran Seminary. He would appreciate hearing from Clifford Mark, Carl Nuenschwander, Sgt. Hires and Pfc. Steele, his bunk mate while in England. A P. S.: "Hope this will find its way into your paper sometime so the rest of the fellows of the 4th Plt. may know I'm still kickin' and doing fine."

William M. McDougall, 119 Grove Dr., Ashtabula, O., would like to know "What's the matter with the men from Co. B, 60th—Calhoun, Young, Kane, O'Donnell, Frenchy and all the rest. Let's hear from them soon."

William D. McCloud, formerly of Co. A, 60th Inf., from 1941 to 1945, wonders if the fellows remember a "slum-burner" named Mac. Bill is farming down in Missouri and loves it. He sends his best to all the guys. He can be reached at Houston, Mo.

"Lute" Johnson would like his former buddies to know what he is doing. He is a junior at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., studying for a degree in architecture. He is under the P-16 program with a 50 per cent. disability. (Acquired on the Remagen Bridgehead across the Rhine.)

A nice letter comes in with dues enclosed from James D. O'Rourke, 608 Highland Ave., Orlando, Fla. A BABY AT TOM EGAN'S

Tom Egan, formerly Adjutant of Special Troops Hdq., is the proud father of a brand-new baby girl. Tingley is to drop in for a cigar the next time he is in New York.

Elmon R. Pasey, Rt. 3, Waverly, Ohio, asks the address of 1st Lt. Malcolm Cott, formerly of H Co., 39th. Will someone please give Pasey this information.

Clarence N. Hull, formerly Co. L, 60th Inf., has never heard from any of the boys. If there are any men from his company living in Belington, Elkins or Philippi (which are near his home) please write him.

Bill Larson, 54 Worth St., New York 13, N. Y., writes in that he ran into Anthony A. Perroti, 946 N. Main Ave., Scranton 8, Pa. Anthony had never heard of the Association and gave Bill \$10 to send in for his membership.

A group of Ninth men in Newark, N. J., are anxious to form a local chapter.

Gordon A. Schneider, 1133 N.

(Continued on Page 6)

A CHICAGO LAD



Philip Glaser, Chicago, killed in action with Co. H, 39th, was recently returned to Chicago for final burial. Any of our members who were knew Phil or the circumstances surrounding his death are requested to drop a line to Mrs. Honey Glaser, 3540 W. Douglas Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

ANOTHER INSTALMENT, P.O.W.'S DIARY

ORIGINAL AND AGE-OLD PROVERBS RECALLED BY WOJTAS AS AN AID TO HIS AND OTHERS' MORALE.

THOUGHT THEY WERE THE "FORGOTTEN" MEN . . . THE ANGUISH SUFFERED IN MANY CASES WAS GREATER THAN THAT SUFFERED BY MEN STILL IN COMBAT.

Many former P.O.W.s from other divisions continue to write for copies of The Octofoil carrying Vic J. Wojtas' Diary. Vic is now living in Chicago, Ill., at 1729 N. Wood Street. You fellows drop him a card now and then.

The following items are verbatim extracts from the outstanding Diary he kept through all his experiences:

JUST ME
I wonder how I'd
like it,
And I wonder
who I'd be
Supposing I was
some body
else
And somebody
else was me.



Wojtas

I wonder, I just
wonder
What man I'd
like to be
Supposing I did
not like him
When I found
that he was
me.

JUST FUN . . .
When your heart is feeling heavy
And your brain is rather sad,
Don't think of all your troubles
But of all the fun you've had.

BATTLE FIGHT . . .
I drink to you, who died on high,
Slain in combat Olympic,
Who knows your death—no earthly
eye
Saw your body broken
By thunderbolt or mortal stroke.

But this I know—
Your soul relieved of dusty
weight
Took no great journey then,
Your body lies where it did fall,
Your soul still scouts the sky.

Oh wait for me,
I am not false,
I'll join your high patrol,
But till that day, help me my bat-
tle night—
I strive for you, as you for me,
Help me, my battle fight.

OVERNIGHT PASS
I knock on the door of angels,
In the faint and starry light—
"Ma'm, a sergeant would like to
have
A furlough overnight."

"But you had a pass last evening,"
The lovely captain said,
And the night before, and the
night before,
Don't you like your Army bed?"

"It isn't the quarters captain."
I see the stars in her eyes
Blink and gently soften:
"You're home-sick, lad," she
sighs.

And she takes a scrap of blanket
and
Scribbles heavily:
"Here is a pass, now travel fast
And be back for Reveille."

So I board the train of slumber
And homeward I am gone;
I'll be back by the self-same track
When the bugler breaks the
dawn.
—Frank Stebbins, P.O.W.

WE P.O.W.s
You and I are prisoners of war,
A blow that struck like one to the
jaw;
Rommel was there with his Afrikan
Korps;
We did our best; we could do no
more.

But to us is attached no glory or
fame,
We're forgotten by most like yes-
terday's rain;
They still love us—those who bear
our name;
We had to be sacrificed—it wasn't
in vain.

Listen hard you men; it's not too
late;
They have invaded a nearby state;
He's marching here and at an early
date
An American doughboy will open
the gate.

Be watchful, be alert while in the
compound;
Think of her standing on U. S.
ground,

The boat will dock and after each
other you've found,
She is sure to ask—are you safe
and sound.
(Written after Sicily had been
invaded.)

GIRLS . . .
If we girls speak our thoughts
we're vulgar—
If we don't boys think we're
dumb;
If we act this way, we're bashful,
If we're lively, we're a bum.

If we smoke then we're too ordi-
nary,
If we don't we're quite passe'—
If we dress plain, we're not stylish.
If fancy, we're blase.

If we neck, it's just a habit,
If we don't, we're not so wise;
If we tell them hard luck stories
To them it's just more lies.

If we're curves, we're getting sur-
plus,
If we're thin we look too gaunt,
Now I ask you like a sister—
Brother! What in the hell do you
men want???

REFLECTIONS . . . MEMO
One resolution I must live up to
and that is when I sit down to a
meal is to take my time in eating.
Right now I have a taste for sar-
dines in either tomato sauce or
mustard sauce, or olive oil.

Al Hudy has told me I must try
smoked salmon; it's delicious, so
he claims. Lyle Hetrick says that
I haven't the slightest idea of what
good sea food is. He advises me
to try fresh fried cat fish or bull
head.

RECIPE
Will try to make a candy pud-
ding that Al Hudy suggested, con-
sisting of Mar's Bar, Milky Way,
Snicker, Oh Henry, Butterfinger,
Hershey Bar with added mixed
nuts and white raisins. Probably
take a few spoons of this candy
pudding to fill a person. Oh yes,
ice cream would go good with the
above.

"A WOLF"
When he parks his little flivver
Down beside the moonlit river
And you feel him all a-quiver,
Baby, he's a wolf.

If he says you are gorgeous
And your eyes set him looking,
But your eyes are not where he's
looking,
Baby, he's a wolf.

When he says you are an eyeful,
But his hands start to trifle
And his heart beats like a rifle,
Baby! He's a wolf.

If by chance you're kissing
And you feel his heart a-missing,
And you talk and he won't listen,
Baby! He's a wolf.

If his arms are strong as sinew,
And he stirs the gypsy in you
So you want him close against you,
Baby! Maybe you're the wolf.

PRAYER TO JESUS, MY FRIEND
Jesus, I come to Thee lonely, be
a friend and companion to me; ig-
norant, teach me; weak, strengthen
me; dumb and not knowing what
to say to Thee, teach me to pray;
deaf, and not able to hear Thee
speak to me, open my ears to Thy
voice; blind, unable to see what is
right, give light to my eyes; paral-
yzed, and timid, too full of human
respect, unaccustomed to doing
good, to act as I see I should, lift
me up; make me walk and work
for Thee. Amen.

YOU CAN'T BEAT A G. I.
His mother would call him problem
child;
Then he was drafted and changed
his style;
Now he's what we call a G. I.;
He's altogether a different guy;
He's fitzy, nervous and afraid of
a gale,

What he needs now is a bucket of
ale!

His mother still loves him,
His girl thinks he's swell,
But he's a changed man now due
to a bomb shell—
That's a G. I.—some call him "dog
face."

You can find him in the most un-
usual place;
He's full of ambition, always on
the go;

Even if he is wrecking the snow;
He's really handicapped; he can't
get rum?

He gets mischievous just chewing
his gum.
That's a G.I.! Just full of noise,
With plenty of ideas, humor, and
poise;

He never steals but he always will
borrow,
But if he fails to return it on the
morrow,

That's a G.I. ten to one!
Tearing the fence down all in fun,
He'll voice his opinions on every
damn thing,

And when he gets through you'll
need an airing,
But what the hell am I talking
about?

I'm a G.I. too, and not a Boy
Scout.

ATTENTION, P. O. W.s!
Attention, fellows . . . This is no
plea!

But take my advice and listen to
me;
You know these cards we get once
a week—

Well, let's fill them out and give
Mom a treat.

She's more than hoping for your
return,
There's an ache in her heart and
it really does burn;

So don't hesitate to write her a
line,
She'll be so darn happy, she'll fair-
ly shine;

It's true you can't write much, the
card is small,
But that's no excuse to hurry and
scrawl.

You know our Moms are a price-
less gem,
So what do you say, fellows, let's
write to them!

She writes to us and sends us
smokes,
But we're too good to write (we
blokes);

Remember fellows, she won't last
forever,
Write now for you won't always
have her;

You know she loses a lot of sleep,
Let's drop her a line and not make
her weep;

She's the one and only girl,
She's worth more than any pearl.
Of your favorite dish she'd give
you a plate full—

Let's drop her a line and show her
we're faithful.

God bless them, one and all—
O. K. fellows, get on the ball!

A PRAYER FOR DADDY . . .
Dear Dad: I am writing with my
own little hand,

It makes me sorta kinda shiver,
you understand?
It has been many days that you
have been away,

And where you live now you never
say.
The tears that trickle down and
bathe my face

Are the tears of pride that leave
no trace.
Please believe me, I vision you
with my eyes disclosed,

Your little son clasped at your
chest very composed;
I too have my combats, and little
wars with faith,

I'm praying you'll be home for my
birthday the eighth.
I feed the birds every morning be-
fore I leave for school,

And in the evening I usually go
to the swimming pool;
I try sorta-kinda to be a soldier
too,

But dad, with you away it's so
hard to do;
When I play soldier, daddy, it
makes Mommy cry;

Oh! yes, I meant to ask you why,
Daddy, why?
I try to comfort her the best I
can,

But gee, Daddy, I'm just a little
man;
Every night I pray to God to keep
vigilant over you,

And then I say a special prayer
for Mommie too.

MEMOS . . .
Solitude and darkness combined
Stiffens the body and poisons the
mind.

When the sun shines bright,
The world's all right.

Journey's end in lovers' meeting,
Every wise man's son is competing.

Whenever the muscles are de-
veloped at the expense of the
heart, it is a poor exchange.

A polite man is one who listens
with interest to things he knows
all about, when they are told to
him by a person who knows noth-
ing about them.

Always be sure of what you're
doing, but not too sure.

Tact is the ability to give a per-
son a shot in the arm without let-
ting him feel the needle.

It is not as big a sin to have a
disease as it is to keep it.

Americans are bent on going to
Europe and all Europeans are
wanting to escape to America.

More people die of overeating
than of starvation (except in war-
time.)

More men withstand harder
times more readily than good for-
tune.

There is no better test of char-
acter in an individual than the ef-
fect of prosperity.

The love of work, friends, beau-
ty, wisdom and last but not least,
freedom, are more precious than
all the money in the world.

While money buys no friends,
it may sweeten association.

The root of evil is not money,
but the love of money beyond ev-
erything else.

Whether a man be drunk with
alcohol or with love of money, the
end is always the same.

It's all right to be poor, but it's
mighty inconvenient.

In life, every day is judgment
day.

The rich and poor change places
too often these days to make any
definite distinction.

Wealth is not what it looks to
the poor; nor is travel the delight
it might seem to the one that stays
at home.

True love is one thing that can-
not be purchased.

Remember: What man might be
we might be also, under the same
conditions.

Man is more susceptible to
rhythm than to reason, but re-
sponds instinctively to rhythm.
Men have danced and sang long
before they read.

Poor is that life which has no
melody, no song, no outlet for the
feeling. Few are the master-sing-
ers, but at least we may vibrate to
their happiness and their melodi-
ous songs.

Music, which is of heaven, de-
scends upon earth only in answer
to the yearning of the human
heart.

They who love themselves more
than they love her, are afflicted
with the common disease called in-
sanity.

Finer things: He who does not
adequately guard the purity of his
emotional life, thus disqualifies
the mind for the appreciation of
finer life.

The drunkard craves not the
quality of the whiskey; but the
quantity and the mere alcohol it
contains.

A wise rule is not to travel too
fast or too much, lest we exhaust
our resources, and lose interest.

Oh, it's so good to be alive. They
grow old slowly who keep their
interest in life. If you lose inter-
est in life it's best to move on.

It is perhaps safe to say that no
European ever has or ever will
fully understand the American.

He who sows is the one who
reaps.

Love is not new, it has gone
down through the ages, but in this
modern day it has been modified
to make it seem so.

A little knowledge is sometimes
harmful.

What does it avail how much we
do, if we do the useless thing?

What does it matter how much
we think, if we think what is not
so?

A good clean life is not wishing,
but willing.

What does it matter how fast
we run if we run in the wrong
direction?

One whose sole harvest in life
is money, never lives to see who
spends it.

Dinners and receptions are a bore,
Then why the Deuce go to more?

HOW TO ENJOY LIFE . . .
Good liquor, moderately con-
sumed, drives away shyness, stim-
ulates friendship, makes for good
cheer and next to the church, the
inn is the most Christian of all
human institutions.

I had no shoes and I used to
mutter, till one day I met a man
who had no legs.

He who loves the sea will find
it as changeable as woman and
as inexplicable.

The local educated man must
know a little of everything and
everything about something.

Too much of (anything) means
only one thing (no good).

Cry and you cry alone; laugh
and the world laughs with you.

Think of others as you would
have them think of you. In other
words, send out the quality of
thought you wish to receive in re-
turn.

Love: A loveless life is a sun-
less world.

The wise man eats what he likes
and, so far as is possible, avoids
food that he does not like, being
careful, of course, to avoid the sin
of gluttony.

It is better to have loved and
lost than never to have loved at
all.

The man who does not love his
wife, women and song, may be a
fool his whole life long.

A fool says what he thinks—a
wise man thinks what he says.

It isn't the cough that carries
them off? It's the coffin they
carry him off in.

Love thy neighbor as ye love
thy self.

He who laughs first, laughs last;
he who laughs last, laughs the
longest.

Love is one game which is never
called off on account of dark-
ness.

Success is getting what you
want; happiness is wanting what
you get.

Skippping over the next few
pages of Vic's diary it is noted
in each instance dates of letters
received from home and J. Depa,
until the thirty-fifth letter from
home and the forty-eighth from
J. Depa is recorded. Getting his
mind back on food he has this to
say:

I can truthfully say that in my
two years of prison life there
were a few days when I could say
I was satisfied in the way of
food. The rest of the time was
hunger, hungry, hungrier, hun-
grier—always hungry.

Am thinking of food now. So
when I get home I will make a
pudding consisting of figs, dates,
prunes, dried pears, apricots,
white raisins, dried peaches, flour,
biscuits, salt and sugar and cocoa.
Should be good, shouldn't it?

(Another page of Vic Wojtas'
diary with his wise Memos. Vic
comments on the days his moth-
er used to caution him not to be
wasteful, that some day he
might appreciate a hard piece
of bread. Prisoner of War days
vividly brought back to his mind
Mom's lectures.)

Campaign Drive On In Pittsburg

9TH BOYS MAKING GOOD AS CIVILIANS IN ALL SECTIONS

(Continued from Page 4)

W. 1st St., Gresham, Ore., formerly of the 1st Plt., Co. H, 47th Inf., has not heard from any of his buddies. He has not been able to write since his address book was lost in the mail. Please write him. For the past two years Gordon has been attending the University of Oregon.

Paul H. Morrisette, 39 Bloomingdale Ave., Pawtucket, R. I., says that not once has there been anything in The Octofoil about LITTLE RHODY. He knows many fellows who are former Ninth men from his own city—and wonders if they just never write or if the Busy Editor just doesn't take time out to recognize the boys from Rhode Island. Let's hear from more of you fellows in Rhode Island—and by the way, are those former Ninth men you know up there, Paul, also members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association?

William N. Barringer, 912 St. Louis St., Hillsboro, Ill., wants to hear from some former 39th men, Co. A. He wrote the National Office for the addresses of former members of Co. A, 39th men, but at present the files are not arranged according to Regiments and it will be some time before he can be furnished with these addresses—in the meantime, he'd like to hear from some of you fellows.

William C. Karantjeff, 1951 Ferdinand, Detroit 9, Mich., wants to hear from his Ninth Division friends; he has lost his little black book and has no addresses. Bill married in Ingolstadt, Germany—married a Greek girl who was a P.O.W. from the Isle of Crete, and now has a 14-month-old daughter, Donna.

John Del Paine, 317 E. Pittsburgh St., Greensburg, Pa., would like to say "hello" to some of his old buddies from Co. E, 60th—and would like to hear from them. He wants them to know there is a new offspring in the family—John, Jr.; born 3 November, 1946.

G. E. Janosik, Washington College, Chestertown, Md., formerly an officer with Co. G, 47th, at Fort Bragg and in Africa, is now Assistant Professor of Political Science at Washington College and would like to hear from some of his friends in the Ninth.

Ben Freilich, 1126 Carroll Pl., Bronx 56, N. Y., would like to hear from any of his buddies of Easy Co., of 60th, and all the swell friends he made while attached to Military Government at Geisenfeld, Germany.

E. E. Shollenberger, 63 Penn St., Montgomery, Pa., wants us to know he is receiving his Octofoil regularly and is always looking for news about his buddies. He didn't make the convention last year because he was busy at Temple University at Philadelphia. He expects to be there this year.

Elnor C. Roscoe, Prospect Pl., New Milford, Conn., writes about the Third Annual Memorial Mass and Reunion in Worcester on Nov. 9th. He said that Service Baty., 26th FA Bn (Elnor was a former member of the Btry.) had their reunion at the Sheraton Hotel and had a grand time, renewing friendships and having a good ole Bull Session.

Wayne R. Meng, Parkiomenville, Pa., enjoys reading The Oc-

tofoil and expects to see the gang at the next Reunion.

Milton G. Haas, 213 Gilbert St., Belleville, Ill., sends in his dues and advises he has solved his housing problem by buying a home through the G. I. Bill of Rights, and adds it is really a swell plan and not as much red tape to go through as would be expected.

Chaplain Timothy M. Andrysiak writes: "It may surprise you to know I am back in the land of the once so-called 'super race.' His new address is: Hq. 28th Const. Sq., APO 62, care P. M., New York, N. Y."

Obert W. Solhaug, Hillsboro, N. Dak., former Co. K, 47th man, would enjoy hearing from some of the gang—and will do his best to answer any letters. He wonders what "Big Stoop" is doing.

Harold B. Dickerson, 319 E. 12th St., Hutchinson, Kans., enjoys The Octofoil very much—and writes: "If any of the old members of the 47th are interested, I have a picture of them. Will be happy to send them one if they will just drop me a line."

Jack E. Radabough, 314 N. Cory St., Findlay, O., formerly First Sgt. of Co. I, 39th, has at last found the address of the Division Association. He wants to know what he can do to be reinstated and get a copy of the Division History. Says he is happy to be home and a civilian but is very proud that he fought with the Ninth.

ROY STANTON A PAPA

The following announcement was received recently:

Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Stanton announce the birth of a daughter in the Allegheny Hospital, Cumberland, Md.

In his letter accompanying the notice, Roy says he wants to raise a little hell with the boys of his old Company, Co. K, 39th. He wonders, when he doesn't see any news of them in The Octofoil, if they are ashamed of the outfit. He admits he has noticed a few names of boys who wanted some of the old gang to write to them. In every case he has written and has never received a reply!

Gerrit Huenink, Hawarden, Iowa, formerly of 60th FA, is anxiously waiting for his copy of the Division History—and who isn't? Gerrit says he's a farmer and still a "Batch"—and 1948 is Leap Year!

John O. Valliant, 206 Brooklyn Ave., Salisbury, Md., formerly of the 47th, writes: "If possible, tell the fellows in the next Octofoil their ex-First Sgt. would like to hear from any of them—especially Captain Lowery."

Jose F. Pena, 787 Prospect Ave., Bronx 59, N. Y., writes: "I see that everybody drops you a line once in a while, except the fellows from the 26th FA Bn. Would like to hear from former members of the Hq. Btry., 26th FA. Come on, you guys, get on the ball and reveal your hiding places."

Richard C. Gardner, 711 W. 38th St., Minneapolis 8, Minn., formerly of 26th FA Bn., writes that since he left the 26th FA he has finished up at the University of Minnesota; gotten married and is working with Swift & Co.

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER MEETS IN HOTEL TAFT JANUARY 28th

Our chapter is moving along nicely. We collected quite a bit in dues.

Because of the volume of work we had to split the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Herbert Temkin was elected treasurer; the office of secretary was retained by Nicholas Capobianco.

We ran a raffle and netted \$70, just enough to take care of the cost of incorporating. We should be duly incorporated by our next meeting, which will be open to members and their wives and which will be held on January 28 at the Hotel Taft in New Haven.

Those members who are not married may bring their lady friends.

General Hoyle is obtaining combat films to be exhibited at that meeting and refreshments will be served.

About 30 fellows attended our last meeting and the next meeting is a sort of experiment to precede a big affair which we will run in the spring.

A growing feeling of comradeship is observed at our meetings and I foresee a swell organization here in Connecticut. SID HEEBERGER.

GEN. CRAIG STILL IN KRAUT LAND

Major General Louis A. Craig sends season greetings to The Octofoil and means them for all former Ninth men. The General's address is Major General Louis A. Craig, Inspector General, EUCOM, APO 748, care Postmaster, New York City. He's always glad to hear from any former Ninth lad.

In one of his letters the General says he is more anxious than anyone to see the History completed, but he is still willing to wait to assure the membership of as near perfect a book as it is humanly possible to produce.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

In "Sunny" England



Another of the photos sent The Octofoil by Jess Nunn, Scio, Ore. In this picture is shown (left) Capt. Boyarsky, killed in action, and Lt. Jess A. Nunn, 1st Bn., 47th; taken at Alresford, England.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

"RED" ANDERSON SENDS OCTOFOIL SWELL DRAWINGS

Albert F. "Red" Wilson, former captain 60th F.A. Bn., now living at 307 Stahl Ave., Wilmington Manor, New Castle, Delaware, writes The Octofoil, and encloses some very neatly finished cartoons for use in future issues of The Octofoil. "Red" says he is selling life insurance for a living, but is studying commercial art during his spare time.

Quoting from his letter: I spent two weeks last July at Fort Dix, N. J., on active duty, training, and met Lt. Anderson, who formerly commanded the 2nd Bn., 60th Inf., A and P Plts. His address is Hdqtrs., 9th Inf. Div., Fort Dix, N. J.

HELLO NUPTIAL 12 I'd like to be remembered to the Nuptial 12 Gang—better known as "Wilson's Roughnecks"—and would enjoy hearing from any or all of them.

Sincerely, "RED" WILSON.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

SIENKEWICZ'S CO. L, 60TH BUDDIES



Chester Sienkewicz, former Co. L and B man, 60th, sends this group picture of some of the old outfit from Co. L, and asks any of the boys who see this shot to drop him a few lines to 817 Kolin Ave., Chicago, Ill.

ATTENDANCE CLIMBING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS; GETTING RADIO PUBLICITY OVER TO PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS.

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER NOW WORKING TO PERFECT A LADIES' AUXILIARY; REGULAR MEETINGS ON FIRST TUESDAY AND THE THIRD FRIDAY EVERY MONTH.

William J. Hilton sends another very encouraging report from the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter. Many of the Chapter's hardest and most conscientious workers have been forced to relinquish Chapter activity because of heavy school schedules, but Bill and the faithful few still continue to push forward in Ninth Division style.

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter is really rolling now that the new year has turned up. Since that reorganization we had in December we have been really hitting the ball at 100 per cent.

ATTENDANCE CLIMBING

Our attendance has begun to climb by leaps and bounds and it is very gratifying to see so many new faces at the meetings. And we are happy to say that we have taken three new members for the Association in the last two meetings.

MANY DIDN'T KNOW

During the last three meetings it has been surprising to find out just how many ex-Ninth Infantry Division men didn't even know about the Association. Some knew about the Association but not about the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter. But, in this area we are doing our best to take care of that, by having the local newspapers print our meeting announcements as well as having the meetings announced over radio station WPGH, Pittsburgh, at 1080 on the dial. The meetings are announced on Sunday just before the meetings. So you can see that we are making an all out drive to get the lost sheep back into the fold.

CAMPAIN DRIVE In the meantime we are making a drive to get the boys to pay their dues for 1948. So far the response has been very good and if things pan out the way we are hoping, we should have a lot of the dues paid up for the Pittsburgh Chapter very soon.

LADIES' AUXILIARY

At the present time the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter is working hard towards the formation of a Woman's Auxiliary. Most of the fellows are definitely for the idea but until we have all the kinks ironed out we are going to keep talking about it. So far the members feel that the Woman's Auxiliary will be a boon to the Chapter.

REGULAR MEETINGS

As reported before, the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter will hold regular meetings the first Tuesday and the third Friday of each and every month at the Commonwealth Bldg., Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

MOVIES IN FUTURE

In the future, at all Friday meetings, we are going to show movies for the entertainment of the fellows. And later on we hope to be able to get a sound projector. So, you see fellows, the meetings aren't strictly business. Come out and see for yourselves.

WILLIAM J. HILTON.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Dunnahoo Will Take Off Feb. 10

Patrick Dunnahoo, 408 N. Market, Benton, Ark., sails Feb. 10 for his jaunt across Europe.

Pat has agreed to write a series of articles for The Octofoil when he visits areas that are familiar to Ninth men. The articles should start appearing in The Octofoil about April. Better contact him quickly any of you who left unfinished business over there that he might attend to for you.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

EXCUSE ME

A sauntering rookie from Kentucky encountered a brisk second lieutenant. "Mawnin," drawled the rookie pleasantly.

The outraged officer launched a stinging lecture on military courtesy, with emphasis on saluting.

"Lawdamighty," said the rookie. "If I'd knowed you was gonna carry on like that I wouldn't of spoke to you atall."

Belgium Book ON U. S. TROOPS CAN NOW BE OBTAINED

A book, titled "U. S. Armies of Liberation," is being printed by J. Rozez, Societe Anonyme, 81a Rue de La Loi, Bruxelles, Belgium. The price of this beautiful colored book is \$3.

Among questions answered in the book is the history of the fourragere decoration the Ninth was awarded. Many photographs of towns and outstanding landmarks.

The Belgium and American flags adorn the glowing cover with the caption "Belgium Remembers and Honors the U. S. Armies of Liberation."

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Wonders About Ex-A. T. 39thers

Hi Fellows:

How about a few of you ex-A. T. guys from the 39th coming out with a letter to The Octofoil. Especially Carnello, Zocco of Hartford, Conn.

The job I have now is a whiskey salesman—so maybe we can get together. See you in Philadelphia in July.

ENRICO CARUSO,

216 Silver St., Hurley, Wis.

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SID HEEBERGER.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Dave Townsend Looking For 60th Cannon Buddies

The Octofoil, Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sirs:

I would appreciate very much hearing from any of the fellows in Cannon Company, 60th.

especially any of those who were in Sgt. Neeley's platoon.

"MA" WINTERS

I would like very much to hear from "Ma" Winters, who, I think, has some snapshots, the negatives of which I would like to borrow.

The "Octofoil" is swell—keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

DAVID E. TOWNSEND,

60 South Rd., Bedford, Mass.

OHIO GROUP TO BE HONORED GUESTS FRIDAY, JAN. 30th

During the Christmas holidays most of the members of the Ohio Chapter were pretty well engaged with their families, consequently no meeting was held at the last regular meeting date.

However, the group will meet Friday, January 30, 1948, at 8:00 P. M., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn O. Moore, 295 S. 17th St. No cards are being sent out since The Octofoil will reach all the members before the meeting night date.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

When Mabel Moore (Mrs. Glenn O.) asked the group to cancel the assembly room reservation usually held open for the Ninth group at Benson Hough Post VFW for this meeting and meet in her home, immediately two schools of thought were created within the ranks of the membership. One group thought it was might sweet of Mrs. Moore to invite the outfit to her home for the evening—even if she did stipulate the basement. But then up pops a sarcastic element who say there is method of Mabel's madness—she invited the group to meet there so she would be darn sure the President (her husband) Glenn O. Moore would be home and in bed before the wee small hours of the morning. The Octofoil is neutral!

Mrs. Moore requests those members attending this meeting to call President Moore at the Ohio Federal Loan and Savings Co., MAIN 3111 at least one day before the meeting.

NEXT-OF-KIN CONTACTED

The last list of returned War Dead of the Ninth Division was furnished the Ohio Chapter by Secretary Tingley. Immediately letters were sent to former Ninth men in every town in Ohio where a former Ninth man lived and the buddy was being returned. The few communities where no former Ninth man could be located, the local Post of the VFW was contacted and asked to offer their services and express the sympathy of the Ohio Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Assn.

VFW CO-OPERATIVE

The two towns necessary to contact VFW Posts were very co-operative as evidenced by the letters received. One community was only a hamlet and did not have a VFW Post, but the Lima, Ohio, Post, some 15 miles distance, contacted the next-of-kin. The letters in part follows:

Glenn O. Moore, President, Ohio Chapt., 9th Inf. Div. Assn., Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Comrade: On Monday, Dec. 8, 1947, at 2 p. m. a full military funeral was conducted by the VFW Post 4811 for Leon T. Bayardi of Connorsville, Ohio.

Yours in Comradeship,

JOHN PAH.

Yorkville, Ohio.

Dear Comrade Moore: Our Service Officer, T. F. Gallagher, contacted the family of James H. Amstutz, and flowers were sent from the Edward J. Veasy Post 1275, VFW, and he was accorded a full military funeral at Harrod, Ohio.

If I can be of service to you or your organization in the future please advise and I will be at your service.

Yours in Comradeship,
WM. R. ROHRER, Comdr.
Lima, Ohio.

The following article and similar articles appeared in various magazines and newspaper in the Middle West during the current month, and the Ohio Chapter is glad to list him as a friend and booster, always willing to help arrange details for special occasions or to give deserved publicity to the Ninth Division Association:

Congratulations have been taking up most of the off-mike time of Budd Sweeney during the past week, which marked his tenth year as a broadcaster.

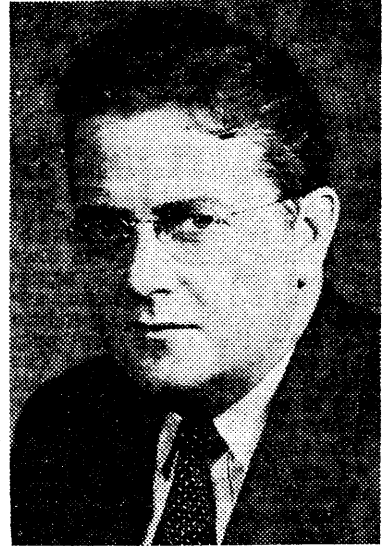
Some of the sport celebrities he has interviewed include Jack Dempsey, Byron Nelson, Tony Galento, Patty Berg, Al Banister, L. W. St. John, Strangler Lewis, Al Haft, Wes Fesler, Dick Larkins, Willie Hoppe, Joe Louis and Alice Marble.

Sweeney made the first broadcast ever made from St. John's Cathedral. He has handled several Governor inaugurals.

An outstanding program handled by Sweeney last summer was

the Memorial Services held on the Ohio State House Capitol steps for the Ninth Infantry Division Association during their second annual Reunion in Columbus, O.

OHIO CHAPTER'S PAL



Pictured above is Budd Sweeney, nationally known radio announcer over the Mutual network. Featured in newspapers all over the Midwest on the tenth anniversary of his rise to fame, when questioned by newspaper reporters about his reaction when reporting over the radio events he was witnessing that were of momentous and international significance, Budd stood pat that the greatest thrill he ever got out of reporting an event over the radio was when he was Master of Ceremonies for the Memorial Services of the Ninth Infantry Division Association in Columbus, Ohio.

POLIVY GETS WRITE UP

Newspaper reporters in Columbus admit there are few organizations whose membership stick more closely together than do the Ninth Division Assn., and that is as it should be.

Perry Morrison, a feature writer on veterans' affairs was told of the position 2nd Vice President Walter Mahon took in presenting Chicago for the 1949 Reunion City. Mahon takes the position the Reunion should be held in alternate years in the East and the following year in the Middle West in order to allow the members of all wage brackets to attend. This wasn't a lot of news but when Morrison learned Calvin Polivy, President of Greater New York Chapter, thoroughly agreed with Mahon's position, he recently mentioned the fact in his column.

Listen, fellows: You who did not pay 1947 dues are off The Octofoil mailing list. By special Convention action you did receive it all the year. But if your 1948 dues are not paid before March 1 this year you will be dropped. Let's pay those dues!

ANY 9TH MAN MAY SECURE A 60TH HISTORY

Quite a few of our members erroneously concluded only 60th Regt. men were eligible to purchase a copy of the 60th History. This is incorrect. Anyone can secure one of these worthwhile books for the nominal amount of 25c to cover postage and packing charges. Just send your 25c to Charles O. Tingley, Secretary-Treasurer, Ninth Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C.

FRANK PRIHODE HAS CHEST OUT

The Octofoil is in receipt of a clever little eard from Frank Prihode, former T-Sgt., 60th Inf., now living in Smithville, Texas, which reads as follows:

To fill our hearts with happiness
A wee tot's come to stay!
Below you'll see Baby's name
And the date of the Big Day!
Name—Barbara Ann.
Date of Birth—Dec. 23, 5:50 P. M.
Weight—6 lbs., 9 oz.
Parents—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Prihode.

MATUSIK ASKS TO HEAR FROM SOME CO. M, 47TH MEN

Ted Matusik, 1802 Wilmet, Chicago 47, Ill., sent The Octofoil a newsy letter under date of 14 Dec. 1947. It was received just as the last issue of The Octofoil was going to press, but parts of Ted's letter were briefly commented on in that issue.

Quoting from other parts of the letter:

I have not sounded off lately because of too much book larnin'—it comes first; too much homework. Keeps me with my nose to the grindstone trying to keep up with the young fry in school.

Did you see the Army recruiting color ad with the G.I. wearing that Ninth Octofoil? Looked mighty high class. It's about time they give the Ninth some of its much deserved recognition.

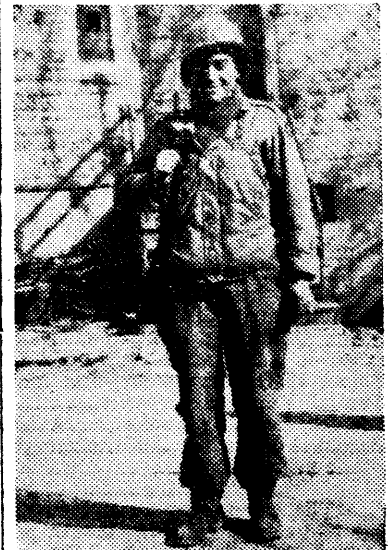
Enclosed is a picture of a swell guy, despite the rank. It was the inside the uniform that always counted. I'll try and send some more when I locate them.

(The picture is of 1st Sgt. Carmen "Moe" Cannella, Co. M, 47th. The picture was made by Conda A. Kneel, Jr., Shelby, O., and is being printed in this issue.)

PLEA!!
You guys, 1st Plt. Co. M, 47th: How about sending me some of those pictures you made? I'd like to see how bad I really look?

No Dues—No Octofoil

Pretty Good Top Kick



Ted Matusik sends this photo of former Top Kick Carmen "Moe" Cannella, Co. M, 47th. The picture was taken by Conda A. Kneel, Jr., Shelby, Ohio. Moe is living in News Brunswick, N. J. See Matusik's letter printed elsewhere.

It seems that a girl and a boy were madly in love. So great was their love that when fate separated them and sent the boy to a distant city, he telegraphed messages of his devotion and affection each morning. Every day for three years the same Western Union messenger boy knocked on the girl's door, bearing the messages of undying love.

At the end of three years they were married—the girl and the Western Union boy.

39th MOTOR POOL



The above photo was sent in by Sam Azzarelli, Rt. 1, Kankakee, Ill. Those pictured above are Cpl. Pat Sponcia, Pfc. Roy Henderson, Cpl. Kennedy, Cpl. Cecil H. Paton, Pfc. Andrew T. Argeanas, Pfc. Paul E. Barber, Pfc. Joe Bokanec, Pfc. Sam J. Azzarelli, Pfc. Harry E. Copeland. The picture was made while the gang was on a problem in England.

CHRIS PATTERER CREATES BEAUTIFUL OCTOFOIL WITH FLOWERS FOR HIS BUDDIES

MICHIGAN NEWSPAPERS ACCLAIM CHRIS' FLORAL PIECE AS THE OUTSTANDING WREATH AT THE FINAL RITES FOR PFC. ELYVN MARTIN KEARNS.

Pictured on this page is a beautiful Octofoil replica which was one of the floral pieces at the burial rites of Pfc. Elvyn Martin Kearns. The following letter from Chris Patterer, 227 Bedford Road, Battle Creek, Mich., and proprietor of the Urbandale Floral Co., same address, is self-explanatory:

I am enclosing a picture of the Octofoil I made for Pfc. Kearns' services. Also a clipping from the Battle Creek Enquirer and News. The description of the Octofoil is incorrect but will give you an idea of what it was like. I would like to do the same for all Ninth Division boys being brought back to this area. Is there any way of letting me know about them?

Sincerely,
CHRIS PATTERER.

The newspaper clipping:
PFC. KEARNS BURIED WITH
MILITARY HONORS

Floral Piece Is Replica of Ninth
Division's Insignia.

Under overcast skies such as those of Germany where he met death in battle three years ago, comrades in arms of Pfc. Elvyn Martin Kearns paid their respects to the memory at prayer and interment services at Memorial Park Cemetery Saturday.

Among his pallbearers was Chris Patterer of 223 Bedford Rd., who served with Pfc. Kearns in the 47th Inf. Regt., of the 9th Infantry Division.

FLORAL PIECE

Chief floral piece at the funeral was a red, white and blue replica of that division's insignia, with the eight battle stars of the division that fought through North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Normandy, Belgium and Germany. The floral piece was made by Mr. Patterer. The floral piece, 24 inches across, was of the division's eight-pointed star in rose with a

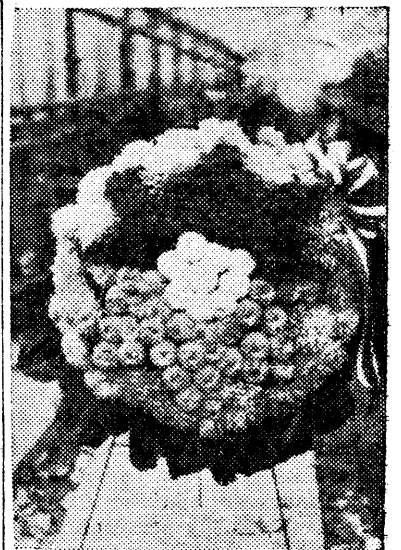
white "eye" on a field of red above and blue below. Pfc. Kearns joined this outfit for the Normandy Invasion. Once wounded he rejoined his outfit Aug. 3 and was killed in action in Germany Nov. 20, 1944.

FORMER CHAPLAIN THERE

At Royal Funeral Home Rev. Henry W. Hartman, past department chaplain of both VFW and American Legion, conducted the prayer service and at the graveside read the American Legion committal services.

In addition to Mr. Patterer, pallbearers, all American Legion members, were: Jack W. White, Sam Maas, Jr., A. D. Cox, Harry Gearn and Cecil Hart.

Beautiful Tribute



The above picture is the beautiful floral piece symbolizing the Octofoil, made by Chris Patterer, 227 Bedford Rd., Battle Creek, Mich., for his buddy, Pfc. Elvyn M. Kearns.

THE PAST IN REVIEW

Februarys to Remember

1941—
Fort Bragg: Ninth Division runs away with boxing team honors despite measles epidemic, 500 happy G.I.s charter and board Queens City buses for journey northward in special Washington's Birthday week-end pass arrangement, draftees keep coming.

1942—
Fort Bragg: Brig. Gen. E. F. Harding leaves Ninth, Durham Little Theater minstrel show, Company E of 39th leading basketball league with seven wins and no losses, large group of officer candidates leaves for Fort Benning, simulated train departure on Honeycutt Field, Falcon's Present is popular soldier-show, General Hoyle receives his second star, Colonel Randle assumes command of the 47th.

1943—
North Africa: Raiders head for Oran via Tlemcen aboard uncomfortable 40 and 8's... then shuttle, remainder of Division moves to Tlemcen—except 39th C. T., which is spread over 300 miles guarding lines of communications. This is the month of Kasserine Pass... 39th's Third Battalion, Cannon Company and Anti-Tank Company are routed by superior numbers of Germans in huge Rommel Panzer thrust, immortal Divarty and cannon company road march over 777 miles in 100 hours to save the day at Thala. Division rushes to Tebessa as Rommel retreats east through Kasserine.

1944—
Winchester and Vicinity: Friendly days in a friendly land, General "Lightning" Joe Collins, the new VII Corps CG reminds assembled Ninth (at Camp Barton Stacey) of their real purpose in coming to England.

land. D-Day is becoming big topic of conversation. Leaves, furloughs and passes bring wealth of sight-seeing and new-found friends.

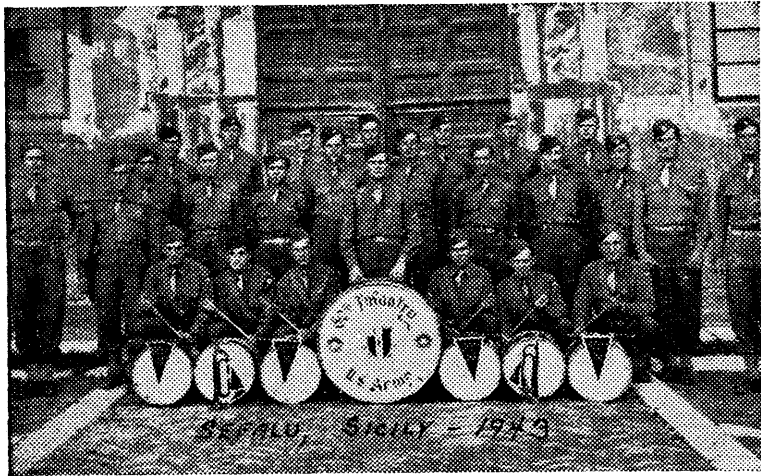
1945—
Germany: Ninth pushes through snow to drive past Dreiborn, Herhahn, Morsbach and toward the vital Roar Dams. Much sought Urftalsperre Dam falls to the 47th, as does Ordensburg Vogelsang. Bloody Hassenfeld is captured by Company G of 60th as Go-Devils of Third Battalion seize the Corps objective, The Schwammenauel Dam. Roar is crossed... Leversbach, Thum, Nideggen and on to the Rhine!

1946—
Bavaria: Occupation is well-organized. Brig. Gen. Jesse A. Ladd leaves command of Ninth and Maj. Gen. Horace L. McBride takes over, Colonel William C. Westmoreland goes stateside. New soda fountain opens in Ingolstadt. Hockey team opens season with win over 39th AAA by score of 20 to 1! Forty-five days leaves to states for lucky few. Division headquarters moves to Augsburg and the Ninth Division News gets a new face.

THE GROSSMANS RECEIVE DANDY XMAS PRESENT

Mixed with the accumulation of Christmas and New Year cards was a miniature envelope that attracted some particular attention. Further examination disclosed a dainty, ribbon bedecked birth announcement from Mr. and Mrs. George H. Grossman, 5 Anderson St., New Rochelle, N. Y. The announcement advised that little Jill R. Grossman arrived to bless the happy couple on December 22, 1947.

60th GROUP PICTURE TAKEN IN SICILY



Sterling Kichline, 637 Highland Ave., Bethlehem, Pa., sent The Octofoil the above picture of the 60th Drum and Bugle Corp. while the outfit was in Sicily. Sterling says if any of his old buddies see this picture he hopes they will write him a few lines.

APPLICATION BLANK

Give the coupon below to a fellow-member of the Division. Better yet, fill it out for the new member of The Association and then let him sign it in your presence. Remember !!! Every member gets a new member in 1947 and 1948.

There are now two types of membership in the Ninth Infantry Division Association:

1. By paying an initiation fee of five dollars (\$5.00) you will be entitled to membership for the current year, issuance of a membership card and lapel button and the monthly publication for one year. This type of membership does not entitle you to a copy of the Division History. You would have to purchase such at the time of publication.

2. By paying an initiation fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) you will be entitled to all the benefits as stated above, plus a copy of the Division History, which we will mail to you as soon as it is completed. Annual dues in the Association amount to three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per year, which includes the cost of the monthly publication.

Note: Make check or money order payable to the Secretary-Treasurer, The Ninth Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 1704, Washington (13), D. C.

Enclosed herewith is \$10.00 in check—money order (cross out one) to cover initiation fee for membership in the Ninth Infantry Division Association, of which amount sixty cents (\$0.60) is for one year's subscription to "The Octofoil." This \$10.00 initiation fee also entitles me to a copy of the Division History.

(DATE)
My present address is: (Please print or typewrite.)

Name _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

R.F.D. or Street _____

City and State _____

Zone _____

My address while with the Ninth Infantry Division was:

Rank and Name _____

Organization _____

Signature _____

Enclosed herewith is \$5.00 in check or money order (cross out one) to cover initiation fee for membership in the Ninth Infantry Division Association, of which amount sixty cents (\$0.60) is for a year's subscription to "The Octofoil." I understand that this initiation fee does NOT entitle me to a copy of the Division History.

(DATE)
My present address is: (Please print or typewrite):

Name _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

R.F.D. or Street _____

City and State _____

Zone _____

My address while with the Ninth Infantry Division was:

Rank and Name _____

Organization _____

(Signature) _____

JOE BANISAUCKAS SAYS HE'LL ANSWER LETTERS - - - INQUIRES ABOUT BUDDIES

Joseph Banisauckas, 1481 East 71st St., Cleveland 3, Ohio, sends The Octofoil a very interesting letter. Parts of Joe's letter follows:

How's our Division History coming along?

What's wrong with the buddies from H Co., 2nd Bn., 60th Inf.? I mean the 81-mm. mortar men. What the hell — have you guys forgotten how to write? Seems like everyone writes to The Octofoil but us 81-mm. men. Here's hoping this draws some attention. Here are a few names I can remember:

2nd Lt. Paul Shoemaker.
2nd Lt. Bertram Wheeler.
Edward Percie
Bernard Johnson.
George Lohanick.
Jan Kowskie.
Al Jarek.
Norman Cooper.
Wally O'Neil.
Ridgeon Stroud.
Herman Palou.
John Karne Boge.
Dave Sanner.

And the rest of you guys, drop me a line and I'll answer all letters and questions.

LOST CONTACT

I lost contact with most of you when we were shipped out from Stalag XII-A, Lennburg, Germany. I've been a civilian since 2 Sept. 45. I'm a married man since 15 June 1946.

WIFE WONDERFUL

I really have a pretty and gorgeous wife, and I've concluded married life is THE life.

HEARD FROM COOPER

I had a phone call from Norman Cooper last November, but

we got cut off and I haven't heard from him since.

NABAKOWSKI VISITS

Jack Nabakowski, his wife and daughter visited us for a few minutes on the Sunday before Christmas. Was surprised and glad to see them.

Keep up the good work on The Octofoil. It's the best paper I've seen yet. I am keeping my copies every month.

JOSEPH BANISAUCKAS.

WHILE A P.O.W.

Joe sent a newspaper clipping from a Cleveland newspaper that was published while he was in a German P.O.W. stockade. The Cleveland paper printed a thumbnail likeness of Joe. Efforts were made to get the photo reproduced, but the photoengravers advises it is difficult to reproduce cuts from the newspaper pulp paper stock. If Joe will send The Octofoil an original photographic print it will be published just as quickly as the space is available.

The clipping reads:

"I am feeling okay at present and am still working," Pfc. Joseph B. Banisauckas has written from a German prison camp. "Don't worry about me as I'm doing my best and getting along all right."

The son of Mr. William Banisauckas, Pfc. Banisauckas, 31, was reported missing since Sept. 6 in Belgium. He is a veteran of fighting in Africa and Sicily.

Pfc. Banisauckas entered service in July, 1942, and was sent overseas in October, 1942. His three brothers, Anthony, Frank and John are in the Navy.

PROPOSED BUDGET Ninth Infantry Division Association 1 JANUARY 1948 TO DECEMBER 1948

Salaries:	
Secretary Tingley and Office Secretary.....	\$ 6,100.00
Extra help	500.00
Social Security Tax	33.00
Office Operating Expense	2,000.00
Octofoil	4,000.00
Board of Governors Expense	1,000.00
Annual Reunion Expense	1,000.00
Fee for Auditing Books	200.00
Purchase Price for Addressograph Equipment.....	1,400.00
Total	\$16,233.00

The Committee recommends an audit of the books be made at the end of the calendar month preceding the Annual Reunion, and a second audit at the close of the calendar year, 31 December 1948.

GEORGE WOOD PAYS BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE TO RETURNED BUDDIES

Gentlemen:

No fanfare, no cheers, no marching feet proclaim the arrival of the last members of our Division—home.

Their arrival, contrary to their every hope, is sorrowful—bowed heads, a shuffle of leadened feet, saddened heart—and tear-filled eyes receive these men who have finally arrived at the end of a long journey.

How brave are the parents of our buddies—even as their sons were brave—they in turn are equally brave.

We know it is noble. All men killed in action in the recent conflict are remembered as heroes of a just and noble cause.

To the memory of these we owe much homage. We must often give a thought for our fallen buddies—and ever recall the epitaph:

"To live in the hearts of those we leave behind—is not to die."

Our buddies will never be forgotten, the deeds we performed together in the past; to this day and far, far into the future will ever be a constant memory.

We can no sooner forget these men who gave their all—for others—than we can the days, the months, and the years we worked as one unit to make a world free of dictators—hatred.

In order to do this we soldiered many contrasting entities into one concrete mass of loyal, true friends.

Friends are by far the rarest jewel we mortals possess. They are God's gift to man. A gift that must ever be treasured, and revered, as is no other worldly possession.

To those living we must strive to be as worthy of their trust in us. To those who have passed beyond our vision—but who live ever on in our mind—we must be true to them.

Though it is impossible for us to be with the family of the returned soldier killed in action, I am certain that each and every-

one of us visualizes what must be the wish of these parents:

"If only one member could have been with us. One pal of our boy."

To these parents—our friends—we are with you every step of the way. Though far distant, we are able to picture the last rites even to our comrade in arms—and we marvel at the fortitude and the strength that is yours. We salute you for being faithful—not only to your own convictions, but to your son.

We progress in life only by surmounting the trials and tribulations that are cast before us. The parents who have conquered this last sorrowful vicissitude have rightly attained the pedestal for the Godly.

And, irrespective of the sorrow, the tears and heavy heart that greeted the flag-covered casket of so many heroic war dead—their arrival home to their native land was watched by millions.

Throughout this great land individuals welcomed these men in silence and a prayer was heard—that came from the heart.

No false words were stated—no promises made. Only a prayer of thanks—that meant more than words can ever say, were said.

I would like to dedicate this to my buddy—Colonel T. C. McFarland, Jr., who was recently returned home to rest beside his dad in Mount Hope Cemetery, Southern Pines, North Carolina.

And I know I speak for all the members of "A" Btry., 84th FA Bn., and all the friends Mac had throughout the Division, by saying:

"We salute a strong, noble woman who knows the true meaning of Mother love—Mrs. T. C. McFarland."

Sincerely,
GEORGE C. WOOD.
159 Greenacre Ave., Long Meadow 6, Mass.

Taylor Plugging For Texas to Get Reunion

The Octofoil is in receipt of a very tempting letter from the Fort Worth, Texas, Chamber of Commerce, asking that the 1949 Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association be held there. Wondering if some of our alert members in that part of the world were putting on the pressure, a little investigating disclosed the fact it was our old friend Wilton Taylor, Taft, Calif. The correspondence has been turned over to the Board of Governors.

The overseas printed issue of the 47th History have all been disposed of and Taylor thinks the Association should have the edition reprinted. The matter was recently discussed before the Board, but right now, with the high cost of printing, the Board is undecided whether there would be sufficient demand to reimburse the treasury for the expense.

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

Ed Rickert Takes Marriage Vows

Ed Rickert writes The Octofoil he's a married man now, giving his new address since he doesn't care to miss any issues of The Octofoil.

He has bought a home at 4121 Blanchon Ave., Congress Park, Ill. Ed was married Nov. 8, 1947.

Congratulations from all your old Co. A, 15th Eng. outfit. Are you going to bring the wife down to Philadelphia?

No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

WOLMAN STILL NEEDLING 899th

Francis Wolman, 74 Hillside Ave., Edwardsville, Pa., proposes to continue needling those 899th T. D. guys until he hears from every one of them. Among other things, in a recent letter, Wolman says, in part:

Is the 899th T. D.s really becoming a mythical battalion? For months they have been sought but with little success. Is the greatest battalion of destroyers going to be lost in the shuffle?

Who were the first to land on D-day, blast their way into Cherbourg, cross the Belgian border, break the Seigfreid?

These and hundreds of reasons are why we should buckle down to making the Association the greatest ever. We are part of the 9th Division; a very important; expressed by its highest officers.

Remember Sgt. Bryles, one of most famed T. D. men? Are we going to allow his award of the Congressional Medal of Honor to be forgotten? No sir, not while there is a man of us alive.

COME ON, SARGE!

How about it Sarge? Let's have a word from you. I'm certain that every fellow reading The Octofoil would be interested. Maybe you can start the ball rolling.

During a recent deer hunting expedition this happened:

A former infantryman, the 75th Div., happened to in our party. He still remembers an artillery shelling he went through.

At daybreak we left camp and drifted toward our post on the edge of the woods. At 7 sharp hunters everywhere began blasting away—doe season was on.

This former G.I. dropped to the ground and began his basic training all over. The sweetest bit of creeping and crawling ever taught a rookie was being enacted.

On reaching the house he curdled up in a corner of the cellar for the rest of the doe season. (Lasted one day.)

O. K. T. D.s sound off!
No Dues—No OCTOFOIL

With a stormy look on his face the master of the household waylaid the servant in the kitchen, "Look here," he began angrily, "How dare you tell my wife what time I came home this morning, after I told you not to?"

The Irish girl eyed him steadily, "Sure, an' Oi didn't," she replied calmly. "She asked me what time ye came in an' Oi only told her that Oi was too busy getting the breakfast ready to look at the clock."