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The Octofoil, July 1948

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

VOLUME 3
NUMBER 7

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

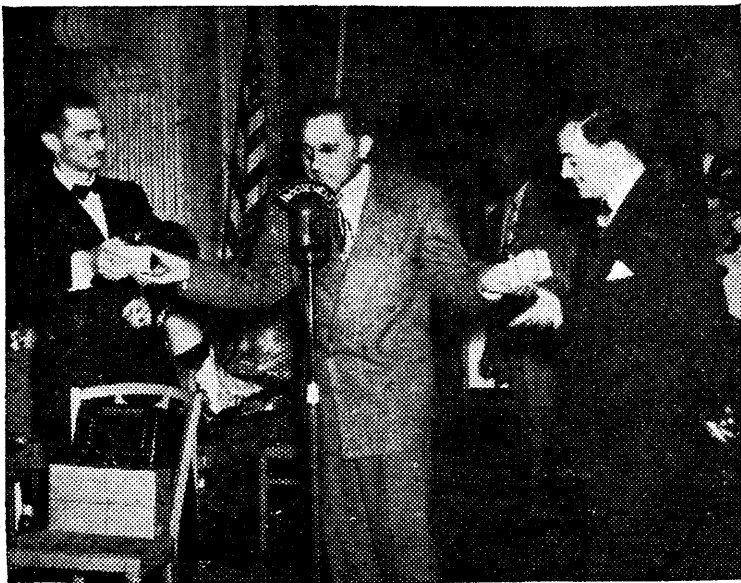
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WASHINGTON (13), D. C. (P. O. Box 1704)

JULY, 1948

ALL SET TO EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Just Three New York Play Boys



"Big-heated" Al Bruchac, recently elected prexy of the Greater New York Chapter, passes gifts on to Cal Polivy and Les Ronay. In the background will be noted the Calypso singer and the hottest hand in town. Foreground are the gifts of radio and special prizes.

NOTICE --- Polivy Nuptials This Fall

When The Octofoil learned Cal Polivy, the immediate Past President of New York Chapter had opened his own law offices that Cal rated a nice little write-up.

But, lo and behold, that was followed with more front page news about the lad: On Memorial Day he worked up enough courage to propose marriage to Miss Bernice I. Malat. Bernice being in a charitable mood said "yes." Some time in early fall Cal Polivy will desert his bachelor cronies. He says even now, he believes he's the happiest guy not only in New York, but in the world.

Philadelphia in July

Is This Ohio Member Association's Champ?

The Octofoil is slipping. Right here in the backyard of the printshop that grinds out The Octofoil history was made two months ago and The Octofoil's grapevine just picked it up.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Greene on April 15, 1948, were TWIN BOYS, weighing 5 pounds each. They have been named Richard and Ricky.

Dick will be remembered by his old buddies from A Btry., 26th F.A., in all parts of the country. He advises The Octofoil he'd like to have them write him at 1047 Bellows Ave., Columbus, Ohio.

Dick explains he's been so busy operating the candy kitchen he owns in Columbus that he just hadn't had the time to report this outstanding twin event of the year. If there are any more former Ninth men who can throw their chests out and point to twins with pride, The Octofoil hasn't heard about it. So for the time being the Ohio Chapter goes to the head of the class as having on its membership list a pappy of such a rare species.

Now, don't some Joe come along and say his wife had triplets and he's been too busy to report it.

John J. Konior Moves From Old Alabama to Live With Yankees

A short note from John J. Konior, advises to discontinue sending his Octofoil care of St. Bernard College, St. Bernard, Ala., and to send it to 405 N. River St., Olyphant, Pa.

No excuse John, now, for you not getting to Philly for the Reunion July 29-30-31.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

THE CANON BALL IS ON WAR PATH

Chester Sienkewicz, 817 N. Kolin Ave., Chicago, Ill., writes The Octofoil and blows his top because he failed to receive the last two issues of The Octofoil.

No one in the 60th ever knew Sienkewicz, but everyone knew Canon Ball, who was one and the same G. I.

In some devious manner Canon Ball fell heir to some "liberated" firing pieces, and when an officer made an effort to confiscate his liberated property the Canon Ball's argument was "if I don't take that back to Chicago with me I won't have anything to open up a business with."

Philadelphia in July

POE GOLDSMITH HELPS "ANON"

The Octofoil's little playmate down in Philadelphia who started the movement to establish a fund for the entertainment and pleasure of Gold Star Mothers and Dads attending the Third Annual Reunion in Philadelphia July 29-30-31, still insists on being an "Anonymous" friend.

During the past month he mailed out scores of cards making a personal appeal to the members.

One of the first to acknowledge receiving the card was Poe Goldsmith, Rt. 4, Allentown, Pa. Poe sent in his check for \$2, which The Octofoil has forwarded to Secretary Tingley to be deposited to the credit of that fund.

Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

A HORSE ON YOU

Jerk: "Do you believe in being kind to animals?"

Lady: "Yes."

Jerk: "Then why don't you give that horse his face back?"

Attention, You Yard Birds

Secretary Tingley advises The Octofoil that he is in the process of mailing out the third notice for payment of dues. He states further that each time he sends out these notices it costs the Association about \$400, besides all the work attached to the job. He says he doesn't mind doing the work, but the members could save the Association this much needed money if they would pay dues when they receive their first notice. Let's make this a record year for the Association and send in your dues. Help to keep the Association alive. It can't be done at the present ratio of income to expense.

WINDSHIELD STICKERS

Boy, oh boy - - You oughta see those windshield stickers that Secretary Tingley has—six for two bits. You can see that Octofoil shining in its glory a mile away. Better send in 25c and get half a dozen.

60TH HISTORIES, HOLD FAST

Send 25c to Secretary Charles O. Tingley, 9th Inf. Div. Assn., P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C., and get a copy of the 60th History or Hold Fast. Better still send him half a slug and get both. You don't have to be a former Go-Devil to get one of these desirable little miniature histories.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

OH MY ACHIN' BACK! WHERE'S 9TH HISTORY?

Glory be to God! Your Octofoil editor sneaked into the printing plant of the F. J. Heer Printing Co., on the night of June 14, 1948, A. D., and talked with some of the hired help—and there right in plain view of everyone was forms of type, locked up, ready to be put on the big presses—and those type forms were page after page of your "Eight Stars to Victory." Those presses roll mighty fast, bud—once the slow processes of gathering material, then of setting the type and having it okayed have been completed.

Many letters were received during the past month—some wanting to know the name of the publisher who was supposed to print the history. This story will have to suffice as an answer to all inquiries.

It was bad enough to be the brunt of inquiries from an impatient membership—now those members have just received reinforcements—snooping newspaper reporters are calling to learn the day and hour this great book will be a finished product.

It looks like the next issue of The Octofoil and "8 Stars to Victory" will be mailed simultaneously! Oh, God, let's hope so!

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

Wilfred Thornton All Set In Hoosier Town

Wilfred Thornton has bought a home in South Bend, Ind., and will move from South Bend's suburban municipality of Mishawaka, in the very near future.

Thornton's new address will be 515 E. DuBail St., South Bend, Indiana.

DETROIT GANG WILL STAGE A FAMILY PICNIC JULY 11 --- GENE BRENNAN AND COMMITTEE GOING GREAT

INSISTS ON FORMER NINTH MEN LIVING IN TOLEDO, O., ATTENDING PICNIC—BUT EXTENDS INVITATION TO FORMER NINTH MEN FROM ALL SECTIONS.

By JOE CASEY, Secretary Greater Detroit Chapter, 8621 Colfax, Detroit 4, Mich.

Another swell get-together! Yes, that is what the Michigan members of the Ninth are just waiting for—our Family Picnic! The date is July 11, the second Sunday of July, and the LOLA VALLEY PARK is to be the scene of a great deal of fraternization and fun!

In a personal note to the editor Joe asks that all members be invited, but especially those in neighboring states, such as Ohio. There's no excuse why any former Ninth man living in Toledo should miss this big affair. Joe plans to be in Philly, and have as many with him as can get away from work.

Gene Brennan, our Entertainment Chairman, has a committee of ten or more to make sure that "you can't miss it, reahhly."

Roads will be marked and guides posted at the park entrance. And taxi service from home and back will be arranged for members who do not have a car—if they just ask the week before. Several members have a 9th Division neighbor—just a block or so away!

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL

So far, the program includes plans for a ball game, and races for the kiddies up to 90, and a bubble-gum contest between fathers and sons, and other contests too! It sounds like a lot of fun for the young and the youngest! And the girls might read The Octofoil and decide to form an Auxiliary when regular meetings resume again in the fall. What do our girls think of the idea?

Our little Chapter has steadily grown these first six months, and we expect to be a lot bigger and better than ever, before we have our First Anniversary Party. But right now, this family picnic is the coming event of our first year!

The Annual Convention was also discussed with great interest at our June meeting! Although every Chapter member wants to go to Philadelphia to meet buddies from other states, this July, many of us cannot get our annual vacation just at that time this year. But several members are still trying to exchange periods with fellow employees, and making every possible effort to be there in Philly for the Convention.

We will be sure of a sizeable delegation at our Family Picnic, July 11, and our delegates can meet the week before the convention to make final preparations for attending, those last three days in July, that Annual Convention for members of all the States.

COME EARLY, STAY LATE

Each member can come early and stay late, Sunday, July 11. And each family is to bring their own picnic lunches, and refreshments, and play pens for their wee ones, and sun burn lotion.

(The local weather man is an honorary member of this Chapter)—or just whatever each family needs for all the comforts of "home again." The committee is arranging for iced pop for the kiddies—an ice idea! And Gold Star Mothers are to also be invited to join our Blue Star Mothers for this grand occasion.

TENTION, MICHIGAN FELLAS

Any Michigan member who lives more than 50 miles from Detroit can drop our Secretary a

Exploring Rabat



Harking back to the early days of 1943 when the Ninth had a monopoly on the French Morocco cork forests, Lee Greene, 333 Parkside Ave., Glenside, Pa., digs up this old snapshot made in Rabat.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

Octofoil On Press Early This Month, Again Next Issue

Because of pressroom employees taking vacations starting the week of June 21, this issue of The Octofoil had to go on the presses June 18, approximately seven days earlier than usual. Some correspondence and art work was received too late for the issue although the material arrived at the ordinarily scheduled time. As much as possible of the holdover will be used in the next issue.

Please bear in mind the Reunion convenes July 29. Members want the latest Convention dope a few days before departing from their homes and Uncle Sam some times gets in slow motion handling second-class mail matter. In order to avoid any possibility of The Octofoil not reaching all the members before leaving their homes for Philadelphia, the next issue will be printed and entered into the mails at the approximate date this issue was.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

NON-PARTISAN

Lady: "I believe you're an illiterate."

Jerk: "No, I ain't. I am a politician."

card, the week before, if he would like to come to our Family Picnic. Directions as to how to find the Lola Valley Park, at the very edge of Detroit, will be sent special delivery! This is a special occasion on July 11! You can't miss it, Michigan members!

THE OCTOFOIL

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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, 216 South Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

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PHILLY IS READY FOR FREDDY; IF YOU ARE NOT, THEN GET RIGHT

John P. Farson, Powdermill Lane, Penfield Downs, Philadelphia 31, Pa., sends in the following optimistic report in behalf of the Convention Committee, and accompanying the report was a \$10 check donated by members of Philadelphia for the Gold Star Mothers and Dads Fund, a movement started by one of their own members whose identity still remains unknown.

The Convention Committee reports that all plans have been completed—now they have nothing to do except to wait for the day they can officially welcome you to the Third Annual Convention. So now it's up to you—and Philadelphia Chapter hopes you really make the Welcoming Committee work overtime. And remember, we also have plans for the wife or girl friend.

It has not been mentioned previously that the Reunionists will have their own private bar—one of the largest you have ever seen, and it is also possible to have your own bar set up in your own C.P.

The Philadelphia Chapter holds its meeting the first Thursday of each month at 1109 Ridge Ave. (just below Spring Garden St.) and any time any of you are in Philadelphia on the first Thursday of the month you will be welcome to attend the meetings at the above address.

I CAN'T FORGET

Few people have the talent to so beautifully pour forth thoughts from their innermost souls as does the Gold Star Wife of the late Pfc. Warren F. McHone, Co. C, 60th. The Octofoil has been fortunate indeed that Mrs. McHone has been considerate enough to submit to the paper products of her fertile mind and soul. The following poem written by Mrs. Warren F. McHone, P. O. Box 714, Winston-Salem, N. C., is worthy of being preserved in the archives of the Ninth Infantry Division Association:

I can't forget the way you looked,
And how you held my hand,
And if my road seemed long and rough,
You seemed to understand.
And with an understanding smile
You held me close to you,
And bade me wait with patience
For skies of brightest blue.

I can't forget the tenderness
Of each heart-warming kiss,
The way you read my heart and mind,
And seldom did you miss,
We didn't have to say much;
We needed but to know
That each was there, together,
That it would e'er be so.

I can't forget the hopes and dreams
We had so long ago;
It seems that they must still come true,
Because you willed it so.
The little home you planned to build
Has not been started yet;
But these are sweetest memories,
And, dear, I can't forget.

Don't Let This Happen

—By Plunkett



Last year a couple of Joes met some attractive dames, detoured by an Ohio summer resort and showed up three days after the Reunion. In the Big City in 1946 several boys from the hills never found the Hotel New Yorker. Don't let this happen to you in Philly.

ROBB ASKS MEMBERS TO READ CAREFULLY AND ANALYZE PLAN FOR CONFEDERATION OF GROUPS

Editor, The Octofoil:

In a recent issue of The Octofoil, you published a copy of a report signed by General Donald A. Stroh and myself, in which we recommended that the Ninth Division Association take the lead in enlisting the cooperation of contemporary associations in the formation of a Confederation of Combat Veterans Associations.

This recommendation will come before the membership during the annual convention in Philadelphia. The Board of Governors has asked me to write The Octofoil in advance of the convention, to urge the members to read the previously published report, and to give the matter consideration before going to Philadelphia.

This I wish to emphasize: The proposed Confederation is NOT a sovereign body which would take away from our Association any of our independence. We believe that all Associations like ours have certain mutual problems which can be solved, effectively and economically, by cooperative action. We further believe that a Confederation will extend to certain of our comrades the benefits of Association membership which now are denied them because of local situations.

It is hoped that our membership will review the report in the light of the foregoing.

Fraternally yours,
ROBERT W. ROBB.

"Rocky" Merz Scores Again - - - But Some Other Former Ninth Men Are Stacking Up Points - - - Read These Birth Announcements

George "Rocky" Merz, formerly of the 47th Inf., sends in a neat little announcement concerning the arrival of Dorothy June on June 2, at 5:30, weighing in at 7 pounds and 14 ounces. Then "Rocky" sounds off on one of the blank pages with the crack: "Old Rocky scores again—this is No. 3, two girls and a boy." Guess when he reads about those twins in Ohio he'll pull his chest in just a bit.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Hatry, 5122 Hazel Ave., Philadelphia 43, Pa., proudly announce the birth of Barbara Ann Hatry on May 28 at 3:55 p.m., weighing in at 6 pounds 14 ounces. They do a little crowing too. On the unique little bunny card, they modestly say:

"And we bet'cha folks'll call her MISS AMERICA some day!"

Walter Wasserman, formerly with 3d Bn. Hq. Co., 60th, sends just the plain announcement enclosed in a dainty ribbon bedecked envelope: "Patricia Gail, May 16, 1948—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wasserman."

Looks like the WACs will have to fight the next war—they are all girls. From Pete Peri, formerly of 2nd Bn., 47th, now living at 3324 W. Garrison Ave., Baltimore, Md., comes announcement of little Renee Ellen's birth. The hospital scales show Renee Ellen entered life's ring weighing 6 pounds 3 ounces on May 25, 1948, at 8:30 a. m.

Where's John J. Sheeney Hiding?

Walter R. May, Box 674 Aliceville, Ala., sends The Octofoil a letter to be forwarded to John J. Sheeney. The letter has been forwarded to Secretary Tingley's office for proper disposal.

In the mean time if any of you guys know where this Sheeney has himself hidden out, write to Walt at the above address.

SENT IN BY A PRIVATE

Between private and a sergeant, The difference I'll explain—The sergeant, I believe, has a rating.

The private, I believe, has a brain.
Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

DOMINOES

Private Burns, whose rendition of "I Left My Heart At the Stage Door Canteen," has made him very unpopular, left another part of his anatomy at the Saturday night crap game.

PREXY RIGBY PATS OCTOFOIL ON BACK

A short note from the Association's president, Henry S. Rigby, 918 Land Title Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa., among other things, has this to say about The Octofoil: "The last issue of the paper was very nice."

The Octofoil had toyed with the idea of running a page of pictures made at the Second Annual Reunion, with the idea in mind, the scenes would cause many more to go to extra pains to attend this Third Reunion and asked the president's opinion relative to the proposal.

He's never been one to pass the buck when that was a requisite to be a C.O., which he was, and a good one. But he passed the old buck this time and advised running of the picture page was entirely up to the discretion of The Octofoil.

After looking over the hundreds of letters received from members, all of which it is hoped will eventually be printed, it was decided in The Octofoil office to forego the picture page and print news about and for the guys who made the Ninth Division the greatest Division of all and are doing the same for the Association.

Philadelphia—July 29-30-31

WOLMAN WANTS TO MAKE THAT OVERSEAS TRIP

Francis Wolman, 74 Hillside Ave., Edwarsville, Pa., celebrated his first wedding anniversary June 7th, this year. But he says the old timers made him shut up giving advice, telling him he was still honeymooning. But Wolman says this month of June with goons (rhymes) will see a lot of weak knees and altar frightened lads put their neck in a noose—and the least Congress should do for them is award the C.M.H.

Wolman received another letter from "Ole" Man Ross, sending regards to all the gang. Wolman says Ross is still smelling up the family home with that corn cob pipe—but it wouldn't be Ross without the pipe.

WANTS TO GO OVERSEAS

Quoting from Wolman's letter: "What say, guys—no response on my overseas excursion idea yet? I figured The Octofoil would be flooded with mail. I know the frauleins and cognac, snapps and chocolate haven't been forgotten!"

Let's get started and maybe next year we can work out an economical plan to take Association members overseas.

In referring the Association, among other things, Wolman writes: After going this far we can't allow the greatest aggregation of great men in the country fall apart. Philadelphia is going to ring more than liberty bells this July and we want every city and town in the country to know it.

In years to come the Ninth Division Assn. will be a by-word to the people of America. Future convention cities will be honored to have us and other conventions will take a back seat when the Ninth moves in.

899TH SOUNDS OFF

Further along in Wolman interesting letter, he says: I see where the 899th made the news again in this month's publication. Nice going fellows. Keep up the good work and we will be on top of the heap.

Let's make Convention City everyone's city, "Philadelphia or Bust," the motto of the Ninth!

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

BOTH THESE GUYS KEEPING IN STEP

Victor D. Daumit, who was drummer in the Div. Band for 51-2 years, now lives at 6437 14th St., N.W., Washington 12, D. C. Victor is one of those fellows who cannot attend chapter meetings on account of his night work. He is a dancer at the Arthur Murray Studios. He got married last year to a dancer and they're to have a little dancer in November.

John M. Taylor, formerly of the 47th Inf., is looking forward to receiving "Eight Stars to Victory," as he is anxious to read about one of the best Divisions in the last war. He also enjoys the monthly copies of The Octofoil. John is in the Army and his address is: Sgt. John M. Taylor, 33795499, 322nd Air Supply Sq., APO 942, care P. M., Seattle, Wash.

Father De Laura's Honored Table



Read Cohen's Story About the Dance

All eyes were on Father De Laura's table, where he was seated next to his charming mother, who can barely be seen in this picture. Others identified seated with or surrounding Father DeLaura and his mother were Cal Polivy, Getzy Schiff, Al Bruchac, Les Roney, Mr Spencer and the rest failed to identify themselves.

How Long Did the Quart Last?



Seated from left to right: Morrie Olender, member of the National Board of Governors; Walter Wolfson and Lucille Simon, Sandy and Ruth Steinman, and last but not least, Ruth Olender.

Light Hearts and Happy Faces



The above picture is a general view of the happy crowd of dancers. Too many to list. Just pick yourself out of the crowd.

Leo Mendeloski's Widow Writes The Octofoil Nice Letter

Mrs. Stella Mendeloski, widow of Pfc. Leo J. Mendeloski, Co. M, 60th, advises The Octofoil of the death of her husband.

Mrs. Mendeloski says Lee was proud of the Division and of the Association and if he was alive she knows he would have his dues paid up and would be active in the Philadelphia Chapter. She lives at 2627 E. Ann St., Philadelphia 34, Pennsylvania.

In giving details of Lee's death, Mrs. Mendeloski says he died May 12, 1948, after a long illness, outlining the seriousness of the received while in combat that bothered him continuously, culminating in his death.

Ginsberg Sends The Octofoil Photographs

George J. Ginsberg, 1140 White Plains Rd., Bronx 60, N. Y., sends two interesting pictures to The Octofoil. Cuts have been made and very shortly the pictures will appear in The Octofoil. One of the pictures showed Cpl. James P. Bauer, Anti-Tank, 60th, cleaning a firing piece.

George has been unsuccessful in his efforts to locate Bauer since they began wearing civvies. Any of you Joes who know where Jimmy Bauer is now, get in touch with George Ginsberg at the address given above—pronto.

Philadelphia in July

The number of veterans of all wars reached 18,744,000 on May 1, 1948, Veterans Administration said. Of these, 14,887,000 served in World War II. The remainder were veterans of World War I and other wars.

That Dance Held In New York Was A Howling Success

(A gander at the pictures made at the Second Annual New York Dance will convince the skeptical a "good time was had by all," but if there is any doubt, read Stan Cohen's glowing tribute to successful culmination of this gala event):

By STAN COHEN

The echoes of good fellowship resounded in all sincerity at the Hotel Roosevelt's main ballroom on May 15, 1948, at the Second Annual Dance of the New York Chapter of the Ninth Division Association.

2,000 ATTEND

An estimated 2,000 persons attended this gala affair. The yardstick of comradeship was measured by remarks as "Well, I'll be the old gang. Honey, I haven't seen these guys in three years," etc., etc.

Each table in the ballroom held a specific group. Going around the room one could spot such signs as Third Bn., 39th Inf.; 47th Inf., 60th Inf., Eng., Qm., Div. Arty. and Sp. Trps. Each table jammed with old friends setting up an O.P. of joyous merriment and chatter.

STILL YOUNG

Members of New York Chapter still look as young as ever on the dance floor. . . . But slight changes can be detected here and there. Some grey hairs and pot bellies are beginning to mushroom. Civilian life with its responsibilities are showing on these dog faces. But meeting with old friends and talking about old times that look of living a free life was returned to their eyes. Does civilian life dampen the strong feeling of "Esprit de Corps?"—not by a long shot that proud feeling of having been a part of a swell outfit is stronger than ever.

EVENING HIGHLIGHTS

The one and only Father Anthony De Laura of the 47th Inf., spotlighted the evening with his mirth and wit. Once again his mother was at his side and his friends surrounded his table.

ENTERTAINMENT FINE

Bob Warak and his orchestra supplied very nice music that appealed both the jitterbugs and the rhumba addicts. Bob did a fine job. Entertainment by the Calypso Singers, impromptu singing by Henry (Blackie) Caldor, rounded out the evening's added thrills.

Bachelors' corner centered around the bar outside, and many a favorite tale was repeated over again with gusto.

PRIZES AWARDED

Prizes were awarded by Father De Laura with the aid of a very lovely assistant. All these prizes were contributed by the individual members. A grand prize of a radio was also awarded. Al Bruchac then presented two gifts of appreciation to Cal Polivy and Les Ronay for their splendid efforts in guiding the growth of the New York Chapter.

Did they all have a good time? You bet they did. For they came from near and far—all over the state of New York and New Jersey to attend this affair.

Financially we could not have asked for better results. Tickets sold like wild fire, and the journal was a bonanza turnout of advertising.

When the crowd started to leave one of the waiters was overheard to say: "Boy, what a crowd. Never thought I could ever appease their thirst."

As the strains of "Old Lang Syne," and "Good Night Lady" reverberated through the ballroom, the satisfied reactions of the dance's success could be told at a glance on each person's face. A terrific success once again for the New York Chapter.

Philadelphia in July

Tom Smith, Former 60th Man, Killed In Automobile Wreck

Thomas J. Smith, 23, a student at St. John's University, died in Meadowbrook Hospital, Hempstead, of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Tom lived at 1301 Hewlett Lane, Bellmore. He was born in Brooklyn and lived in this borough until two years ago when he moved to Nassau County. In the recent war he served overseas with Co. C, 60th Infantry, Ninth Division and was the holder of the Purple Heart.—(Taken from The Brooklyn Eagle.)

MOLOTOFF'S REMAINS WILL BE RETURNED FOR BURIAL; HE WAS NINTH'S ONE-MAN ARMY

No old-timer wants to forget or ever will forget Pvt. Karl C. Warner, our "Molotoff." He was eccentric and was misunderstood but by the eternal gods he was a SOLDIER, a soldier the Ninth was proud to call its own—a soldier whose courage was never matched by outstanding heroes of any other division.

John Lihack, formerly 1st Bn., Hq. Co., 39th, sent to The Octofoil clippings from a New York paper of recent date that again brings the immortal Molotoff in the lime-light, years after he had given his all to protect those buddies who had once despised him but in combat had come to love him and then to all but worship him. Parts of the story follow:

An 11-month search by the Army for the next-of-kin of the late Pvt. Karl C. Warner, a New Yorker, and one of World War II's infantry heroes was ended when a sister was found living in the Yorkville section of Manhattan.

WANTS HIM RETURNED

She was found three blocks from her old address, at 306 E. 82nd St., between First and Second Aves. Mrs. Mary Ptusky Udiljak, "Molotoff's" sister, was asked if she was the sister of Private Warner, the war hero known as "Molotoff." She answered "That's my brother." She said she did not know the Army had been looking for her and she had no idea her brother was still buried in Tunisia.

Informed the Army would return her brother to any specified place in the United States and provide \$75 toward a funeral, Mrs. Udiljak quietly said: "Of course, he is to come back. New York was his home. Karl loved this place. He did very much." She said she planned to make arrangements with the Army as soon as possible for his return from North Africa.

WITH THE GHOMS

Molotoff was killed storming a German machine gun nest with a detachment of French Ghoms, the commandos of the French Army, who were scouting for American troops.

Pvt. Warner was a member of the first platoon of G Co., 60th Inf., Ninth Division. Before he died at the age of 26, he had shown himself to be an efficient and fearless combat man but at the same time one of the poorest of rear-echelon soldiers.

BIG SHOT ON BROADWAY

Everyone in his outfit called

him "Molotoff" because he once said he was born of Russian parents. He also led everyone to believe he was a big man on Broadway. Actually he was a former bus boy at Jimmy Kelly's Greenwich Village night club and lived in a W. 44th St. furnished room.

NO HAIRCUT

In the United States during training and in the rear areas of combat zones he was always being disciplined. He would not get a haircut. He wore officers' uniforms because they looked better and were more in keeping with the clothes he wore along Broadway. He walked off his guard duty post and he would not salute any one except a general.

When his outfit got in the war he found his place. He volunteered as a company scout and led advances in his zoot-suit uniform—officers at the front didn't bother to complain about his suit.

CLEARED WAY

His outstanding feat occurred near Sened, where his platoon was covered by two companies of Italian infantry dug in on higher ground. On March 23, 1943, the Ninth Division artillery was pounding the enemy defense, with Molotoff scouting out ahead of his platoon, calling back directions for the fire. Finally the American guns broke down the enemy resistance and a few Italians surrendered.

FOOLS THE ITALIANS

At this Pvt. Warner began shouting for all the Italians to give up. Shouting "Finish la guerre, finish la guerre," he explained in his apparently understandable dialect that they were surrounded by a superior American force. Six hundred Italians gave up to Pvt. Warner. Their capture broke the enemy defense and opened the way for a wide American advance.

SILVER STAR AWARD

In his final battle, Pvt. Warner was scouting with Ghoms. A German machine gun nest was blocking the way. Wearing a pair of powerful field glasses, Pvt. Warner was sent out to locate and destroy it. But his patrol was all wiped out. His body was discovered by the French, who found a German flag—his lost trophy—in his hip pocket. Two months later he received a Silver Star posthumously, after a recommendation for a Distinguished Service Cross was denied because he was awaiting a court martial for insubordination.

STOP GOLD BRICKING AND ANSWER THESE INQUIRIES

Sgt. J. W. Mancil, formerly of Co. G, 47th Inf., would like to hear from his buddies. J. W. is in the service again and his address is Sq. C, 343rd Bn., Lackland Air Base, San Antonio, Tex. Mrs. Mancil writes that J. W. is now at Fort Benning, Ga., for a few weeks' bakery schooling, but will be back in San Antonio soon, where they will buy a home, and she and the two sons will join him there. Mrs. Mancil would like to hear from some of the wives of J. W.'s buddies, as writing is her hobby.

(Ed's Note: In the letter was a picture of J. W. and young Ronne Darrel, his son. They reached The Octofoil too late to be processed into cuts for this issue, but will be used next month.)

George F. Curry, 38 Stillson St., Delaware, O., formerly of Co. B, 60th, wants to see some news of some of the boys who were in his outfit. George is driving a truck for a fruit company.

Byron M. "Beba" Wertman, Turbotville, Pa., wants to see some news of the fellows who were formerly in Regt. Hq. Co., 39th Wire Section. Since discharge Beba married the former Hilda Louise Murray, and is the father of a 20-month-old son, Byron M. Wertman II. He worked for one year at his prewar job of full-fashioned hosiery knitter, then went to school for a course in retailing, merchandising, etc., but he ran into too many complications and is now on-the-job trainee with his father in the lumber business. As a side line, he is local correspondent for The Danville (Pa.) Morning News, and has charge of three

rural routes for collections, advertising, etc. He would appreciate a line or two from Lyle Bredembamp, Ernie Bertram and others.

Mr. Floyd Bowman, Sr., Bogue Chitte, Miss., who is father of Floyd M. Bowman, Jr., formerly of Co. L, 60th Inf., who was killed March 17, 1945, around Huertgen, Germany, wishes to hear from anyone who served with his son.

Jesse Hampton, 905 E. Bartow, Quitman, Ga., wants to get in touch with someone from Co. H, 39th Inf., who knew Pfc. Robert E. Green, 34268181, who was killed in action July 6, 1943. Jesse wants to obtain this information for Robert's mother, who has never been able to locate anyone knowing her son and consequently has not received any information concerning his death.

Coleman A. Barnes, P. O. Box 581, Morganton, N. C., formerly of Hq. and M Cos., desires the present address of Kenneth Rounds, who was with Hq. and M Co. also.

Alphonse Sanders, formerly of Co. L, 60th Inf., would like to hear from some of the old gang, especially Coks and Shaffer. The address for Al is 4752 Bradley St., Baton Rouge, La.

Lawson M. Katelye, 8256 Bollier Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y., formerly of Co. C, 39th, sends best wishes to fellows of the old C Co., and would like to hear from any of them.

ST. SEVER RESIDENTS PRAISE 9TH DIV.

Cemetery At Le Chene Guerin

By PAT DUNNAHOO

Le Chene Guerin, France.—Visiting the Le Chene Guerin United States Military Cemetery today, one feels certain that the 1,202 American soldiers buried here, who include many members of the Ninth Division, rest in the eternal peace they deserve. The cemetery, in which lie hundreds of 9th Division G.I.'s who lost their lives in the latter phases of the Normandy campaign, is a place of quiet, peaceful beauty this summer.

Wild white daisies pattern the carpet of grass which covers every section of the burial ground, and beds of blooming flowers are put along the hedgerow banks which bound Le Chene Guerin. A giant oak tree, standing in the center of the cemetery, shades many of the graves.

MOST PICTURESQUE

Le Chene Guerin Cemetery, located 160 miles west of Paris, is in one of the most picturesque sections of France. Directly across the lane which fronts the cemetery is a centuries-old thatched roof cottage with iris blooming on the peak of its roof. Nearby stands a roadside shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes. Throughout the entire area are blooming apple orchards and lush green fields.

Like all other military cemeteries in Europe, Le Chene Guerin reflects the careful attention given to it by the American Graves Registration Command. When 1st Army headquarters relinquished its control of the cemetery after V-E Day, the Graves Registration Command assumed responsibility for the maintenance of it.

The cemetery is today extremely neat and well-cared for. Carefully raked gravel walks radiate from the tall flag-pole standing near the center of the burial ground, from which flies the American Stars and Stripes, marking the two acres as American-owned soil.

GLISTEN IN THE SUN

The orderly rows of freshly-painted white crosses and Stars of David glisten in the sunshine. The name and serial number of every soldier interred in the cemetery is clearly lettered on the marker at his grave, and his dog-tags are attached to the back of the marker.

No distinction in rank was made when these fallen American heroes were buried. In the equality of death, privates and colonels lie side by side.

HONOR GUARDS

Visitors to the Le Chene Guerin Cemetery are received by the two servicemen who are always in constant attendance. The military personnel stationed here live in a small barracks at the entrance to the cemetery and by means of a rotation of duty, an honor guard for the soldiers buried here is always maintained by the United States Army.

Visitors enter the cemetery through an attractively decorated reception room where visitors' registration book is kept. In the reception room there is also a large, leather-bound album of photographs made of the cemetery and of many distinguished persons who have visited here to pay their respects to the men buried in Le Chene Guerin.

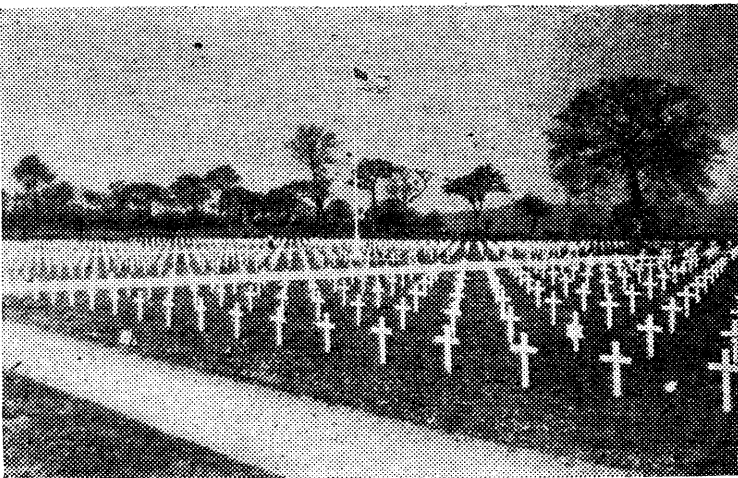
Among the photographs is one taken of Georges Bidault, foreign minister of France, when he visited the cemetery. There are also a number of photographs taken of Le Chene Guerin on special French religious holidays when most of the inhabitants of near-by villages visit the cemetery and decorate the graves with flowers; a tribute to the soldiers who paid the supreme price in the liberation of France from the Nazis.

FRENCH ATTEND SERVICES

Many Frenchmen also attend the Memorial Day services which have been conducted by the United States Army at the cemetery every year since 1945.

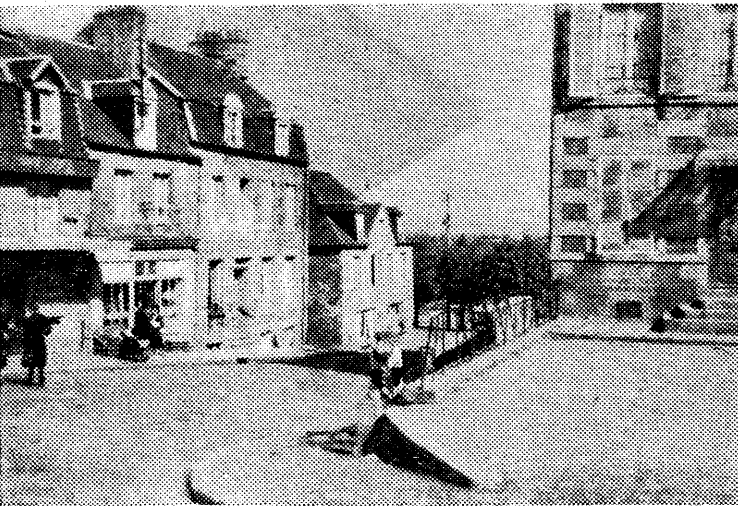
With such spontaneous gestures of tribute from the French people, and with the consistent attention given to it by the Graves Registration Command, the Le Chene Guerin Cemetery is a place of beauty and a suitable resting place for the war-dead buried here.

PRESENT APPEARANCE OF CEMETERY



The above picture of the U. S. Le Chene Guerin Military Cemetery, was recently made by Pat Dunnahoo while on his visit to France.

MAIN DRAG IN ST. SEVER, FRANCE



The above picture was sent The Octofoil by Pat Dunnahoo, who is visiting various parts of France. Pat says the natives of St. Sever have fond memories of the Ninth Division.

BUFFALO CHAPTER CONTINUES TO CARRY ON HIGH IDEALS OF THE 9TH

Edwin J. Scherer, 112 Winslow Ave., Buffalo 2, N. Y., secretary of the Greater Buffalo Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, sends in the following excellent report on the activities of that group:

The next-of-kin of the late Pvt. John J. Parks, 60th, and of Pvt. Anthony G. Acquisto, 60th, were contacted by members of the Greater Buffalo Chapter.

In the case of Pvt. Parks, Pres. Henry J. Golabiecki attended the funeral and assisted the family in every way possible.

Through the efforts of the Greater Buffalo Chapter the parents of Pvt. Acquisto were enabled to have their son buried here instead of in Elmira, N. J., as was originally planned through error. As well as assisting at the funeral, the color guard and the entire burial detail was secured by the Chapter.

It was learned after contacting the local attorney for the family of Sgt. Thomas J. Gibbs, 39th, that his burial was to be in South Daytona Beach, Fla., to which place the family has permanently moved.

MEETING WELL ATTENDED
Our Chapter meeting of 6 May

1948 was well attended, and in addition to many old Chapter members we had in attendance six new ones, namely:

Stanly Adowski, 47th Inf.
Jack M. Brunetto, 39th Inf.
Cosimo F. La Corte, 39th Inf.
Arnold Rounds, 60th Inf.
Lou Shephard, 60th Inf.
Wilbur Yuhaus, 84th F.A.

Anyone wishing to contact any of the above men may do so by writing Secy. Scherer at the address given above.

DETAILS FOR FUTURE

Among other things, it was decided at the May meeting to form a Pall Bearer Detachment from the Greater Buffalo Chapter, to assist at all future burials of former Ninth Division men in this area. The following men comprise the detachment:

Jim Maloney, 47th Inf.
Stanley Wojcieszak, 47th Inf.
Angelo Arena, 47th Inf.
Henry J. Golabucki, 47th Inf.
Robert Klump, 47th.
Edwin J. Scherer, 47th.
Bernard Lipowski, 39th Inf.
Theo. Paluch, 60th Inf.
Arnold Rounds, 60th Inf.
Theodore J. Binda, 60th Inf.
Frank Heikkila, 9th Sig.
Donald McNaughton, 9th Meds.

'Twas the devil's wind that blew
her skirt so high,
But the Lord was just and He
blew the dust
Right in the bad man's eye.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

In addition, there will be about 1,100,000 widows of deceased veterans who had not remarried; and 1,200,000 children under 18 of deceased veterans.

A CALCULATOR

Sergeant: "You're so stupid you can't even add two and two!"
Private: "Oh, yeah. Gimme a pencil and paper and I'll show you."

Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

In case you didn't know, the medical term, "spasmodic equilibrium of the diaphragm" means "hiccups."

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CANDIES

Shipped Anywhere in the United States or Canada

(Made By a Former Ninth Division Man)—

RICHARD L. GREENE

821 W. Mound Street

Columbus, O.

—CHOCOLATES OUR SPECIALTIES—

NATIVES OF ST. SEVER STILL COMMENT ON THE NAMES PRINTED ON SIDES OF THE JEEPS

ST. SEVER PEOPLE NEVER GET TIRED OF TELLING HOW THE FIGHTING NINTH DIVISION FORCED THE NAZIS OUT OF THEIR TOWN

By PAT DUNNAHOO

St. Sever, France.—The people of the French village of St. Sever have not forgotten the Ninth Division G. I.s who, in August, 1944, freed them from the yoke of Nazi occupation.

JOE MCKENZIE WANTS MUSIC OF 9TH MARCH

Joe McKenzie, Waltham, Mass., writes Secretary Tingley:

Your printing of the Ninth Div. March in the last issue of The Octofoil will be appreciated by many. I failed to see music the words should accompany. Could you print the music in the next issue?

(Ed's Note: Secy. Tingley secured a copy of the music and forwarded it to The Octofoil. The sheet music will be photographed and made into a cut, and printed in the next issue, so as to reach the membership the dates of the Philly Reunion.)

Quoting further from Joe's letter:

Here are a few words about former members of Service Btry., 26th F.A. Bn.:

Joseph D. Mosier, Jr., 1062 1-2 S. Washington St., Kankakee, Ill., writes that he is working for the Public Service Corp. of that city. Joe has been married for over one year. He would like to hear from some of the boys.

John M. Murray, 83 Gray St., Arlington, Mass., is the proud father of a baby boy. Peter, as he will be called, was born May 23. This is the first for John.

Richard M. Hill, Jr. is now blowing his horn for the Lloyd Welk Orchestra now playing at the Hotel Roosevelt in New York. The artillery boys of Barton Stacey will remember Richard and his hot trumpet. The engineers will remember he and his band at their dances at Winchester.

Quintino Pergiovanni borrowed plenty of money from Uncle Sam through the G.I. Bill and entered the contracting business. Pergi owns enough heavy equipment to do any size road construction job. If you want his bid on a job his address is Chester, Mass.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

899th T. D.s Relax



Hal O. Christianson, 1155 New York St., Long Beach, Calif., calls Frances Wolman's hand and sends in the above photograph of some former 899th T. D. men. The above picture was made in Germany just before V-J Day. Left to right: D. C. Galenipper, Carl R. Ross, Wolman, with Kendall relaxing on the gun.

Philadelphia in July

Members of their families will include 13,800,000 wives; 20,200,000 children under 18 years of age; and 3,600,000 other relatives living in family units headed by veterans.

Visiting this Normandy village, I found that today, four years later, the St. Sever inhabitants still have many vivid memories of "those courageous Yanks" who drove the Germans from the town.

"No, we'll never forget our liberators," said the proprietor of a local cafe, as he poured me a glass of cider. And the group of men who were, as is inevitable in a French cafe, playing cards there, agreed with him.

Then they all began to reminisce, to retell the story of the "Battle for St. Sever"—how the hard-fighting 9th G. I.s, as they swept through Normandy, forced the much-hated Boche from the town; how the coming of the Yanks to the village fulfilled the hopes of the people of St. Sever—hopes they had never lost during the four long years of German occupation.

REMEMBER JEEPS

"And the jeeps and the tanks and the trucks," said one of the men. "Do you remember how they filled the streets on the day of the liberation?" This brought many "Ah, oui's" from the other peasants, for these Normandy farmers, who always travel by buggy or on foot, are still awed at the memory of the mechanized material of the 9th; and they are still puzzled by those G. I. nicknames, ranging from "Berlin Express" to a simple "Annie" (for the girl some 9th soldier left behind him) which were always painted on vehicles—a bit of Americanism these earnest, stoical peasants could never understand.

"And the cigarettes," said another man. "We'd had no cigarettes for four years, and they shared their cigarettes with us." ("Ah," remarked one bearded old peasant, "those Camels were good.")

The people of St. Sever also remember how the 9th doughs shared their K-rations and chocolate with them. "Even in the midst of battle, they gave us food," said one woman who was doing her washing in the communal washing machine—the village pond. "Yes," she told me, "those Yanks were gentils!" (A phrase which to the French sums up all good qualities.)

Nor have the children of St. Sever forgotten the delight of chewing gum, which the 9th G. I.'s gave them. They believe the pockets of all Americans are loaded with sticks of gum and a group of school boys clattering along in their wooden shoes, accosted me, pleading for chewing gum.

ALL REMEMBER

Everyone in the village, from the wrinkled old grandmothers to the gum-loving school children remembers with affection the 9th G. I.'s.

St. Sever was luckier than most other Normandy villages in that it emerged almost intact from its liberation battle. Today, it is a sleepy little town, its quiet disturbed only by the sound of wooden shoes, its streets deserted except for an occasional two-wheeled cart. In the peaceful, picturesque atmosphere of St. Sever today, the days of war seem very remote.

To the people of the town, however, "la guerre" is still a topic of supreme importance, and their liberation from the Nazis the most important event of their lives. For on that August day, freedom came once again to the village—and the people of St. Sever will never forget the 9th G. I.'s who brought it there.

Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

By 1955, four out of every 10 persons in the United States will be either a veteran or a member of a veteran's immediate family, a Veterans Administration population projection revealed.

FINAL RITES FOR LYLE W. MOWRER HELD IN NEBRASKA

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mowrer, 1543 Linden St., Sidney, Nebr., sends The Octofoil the clipping printed below taken from the Sidney newspaper.

VANNIER PAYS RESPECTS

In their letter, that was so greatly appreciated by The Octofoil, Mr. and Mrs. Mowrer mention the fact that on May 9th Everett L. Vannier of Harrisburg, Nebr., formerly of Co. L, 47th, called on the family and offered condolences in behalf of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. The Mowrers were very grateful for Everett's thoughtfulness and display of true Ninth Division spirit.

Technician 5th grade Lyle William Mowrer enlisted in the U. S. Army at Cheyenne, Wyoming, June 13, 1942, taking his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, after which he became attached to the Headquarters and Service Company of the 15th Engineer Battalion of the 9th division.

After receiving special training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he went overseas in December, 1942. He saw action in the major battles of the North African Campaign and with his Company went to Sicily, England and France, entering with the U. S. Army on "D" Day. He was killed near St. Lo, France, July 25, 1944.

Lyle's ability as an artist kept him busy painting signs to mark roads over which his Company must travel, and having an artist's awareness of the beautiful scenery, often wrote home of lovely landscapes and of the beautiful blue waters of the Mediterranean, expressing a desire to see them in time of peace.

He was awarded the European-African medal with three bronze battle stars, good conduct medal, and the Purple Heart. His Commanding officer wrote, "I knew Lyle as an unassuming fellow, a fine man, and an excellent soldier."

Lyle was born at Aurora, Nebraska, May 15, 1916, coming to Sidney with his parents when a small lad. He attended the Sidney public schools, graduating with the class of 1934. After graduating he was employed by the Logan Market of Sidney.

He was a member of the DeMolay and Master Counselor of that organization in 1934. He was active in Boy Scout work and a member of the congregation of the First Methodist Church of Sidney.

In September, 1939, he was married to Miss Naomi Adams. One son was born of this union and died in infancy.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mowrer; one brother, Keith, and a sister, Mrs. Imogene Stewart, and a host of other relatives and friends.

GOODNIGHT

And so to him, our departed hero, We tender this our last farewell of love.

He gave his life to save his country's honor And lives immortal in a fairer world above.

We cannot see beyond our earthly borders Nor know the season some lives here are brief;

But this we know, Our Father knows our sorrow And will not fail to bring to us relief.

We place a wreath upon the bier of heroes Who gave their lives like him that we may live.

But, feeling all of us are somehow guilty, Repent in tears and plead, "forgive, forgive."

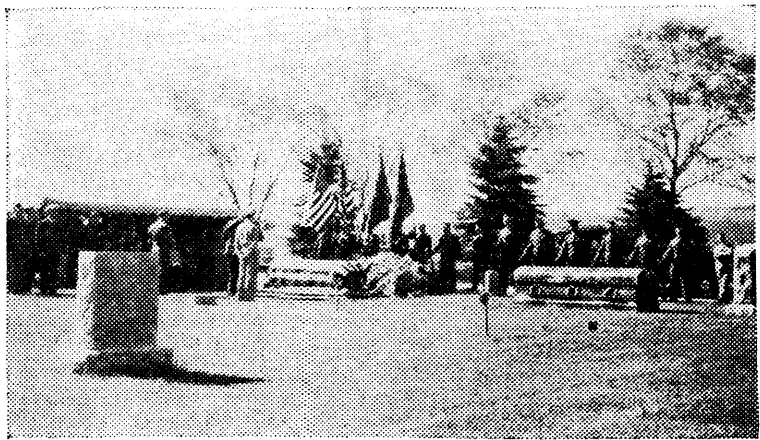
Forgive us for a cruel war's despoiling, Forgive us where we fail to follow right,

Forgive us for our little lives and vision, Forgive us, Lord, and lead us to the light.

Some day will dawn a glorious happy morning, The dead in Christ shall rise to honor bright, God grant to make us worthy of our heroes, Until that day, dear Soldier Lad, "Goodnight".

Winifred Wolf, Sidney, Nebr.

VIEW TAKEN AT IMPRESSIVE SERVICES



The above picture is one of several sent The Octofoil by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mowrer, 1543 Linden Ave., Sidney, Nebr. It was made during the impressive burial services of T-5 Lyle W. Mowrer.

JAMES WARD ASKS ABOUT ANTI TANK PLATOON OF 60TH

James Ward's address is Box 192, 17 River Rd., Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. He writes The Octofoil and complains about so few of his old unit writing for their paper. Ward wants to hear directly from any of you former Headquarters Co., 1st Bn., 60th, Anti-Tank Plt. guys.

Another interesting note in the letter was an experience Ward had when he casually glanced at a group of cadets "strutting" and noted an Octofoil on the shoulder patch on an individual who looked a bit out of place with the cadets. Moving in, Ward made himself acquainted and learned he was talking to Captain Costello, who was wounded in France while attached to the 60th Infantry. Ward is sure many of the Captain's old buddies will be glad to learn his whereabouts and will be writing to him.

Philadelphia in July

Between the years 1985 and 1995, more than half of all the men in the United States over 65 years old will be World War II veterans, Veterans Administration predicts.

Fight 9th's Battles All Over On Coast

Lt. Bruce Coleman is stationed at Fort Ord, Calif., attached to Co. H, 12th Inf. He writes a swell letter, vividly portraying the miseries of living outside the realm of any former Ninth Division men.

However, recently, he did run into Captain Lloyd Tallent, formerly of the 60th, and they made an afternoon of it, fighting and refighting all the battles and skirmishes over again, spurred on by the effervescence of some high-powered suds. He believes they are the only two former Ninth men on active duty on the West Coast. Naturally the names of Denver, Hard Tack, Hardage, Sprinters, Van Dyke, Mike and others were often mentioned. The lieutenant would like to know if any of the old gang are back in the service and if so if any are on the West Coast.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

The average of World War II women veterans is slightly higher than that of their male fellow-travelers. The feminine average is an even 30 years, while the average of the men is 29 years, nine and one-half months.

CARL SHERIDAN'S MOTHER IS GIVEN GOLD STAR PIN

John Whitmore, Baltimore, a member of the Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, sends to The Octofoil the following clipping from a Baltimore newspaper:

Memorial Day was selected for presentation of a Gold Star Button to the mother of a Baltimore soldier whose heroic death was honored with the nation's highest valor decoration.

The Gold Star Button, recently authorized for distribution to the families of men and women who died during World War II, was presented to Mrs. Charles E. Sheridan of 3901 Falls Road, in a special ceremony.

Mrs. Sheridan is the mother of Pfc. Carl V. Sheridan, who died while leading an assault on a German fortification in 1944.

COLONEL DECORATES HER

The ceremony was held at 12 P. M. in the headquarters of the Maryland Military District, Post Office Building, Calvert and Fayette Streets.

Col. Arthur L. Shreve, assistant executive of the military district, made the presentation.

In attendance was Mrs. Nellie Twele, president of the Baltimore unit of the Gold Star Mothers, and Mrs. Leah Wright, a national officer of the organization.

A TOKEN CEREMONY

The armed forces were represented by Colonel Preston D. Calum, Organized Reserve Corps; Lieut. Col. Charles D. Warfield, Air Force; Major John W. Sause, Reserve Corps instructor; Lieut. Col. John M. King, Maryland National Guard.

The presentation to Mrs. Sheridan was arranged by the Army as a token ceremony to mark the official distribution of the Gold Star Button.

Authorized by Congress as a tribute to the nation's World War II dead, the buttons will be given without charge to the widow, widower, parents, including mother, father, stepmother, stepfather or mother and father by adoption, of those who died between December 7, 1941, and July 25, 1947.

BUTTONS TO BE SOLD

The buttons will be available for purchase, at a cost of about \$1.50, by children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters and half brothers and sisters of the deceased.

Applications, which must be submitted to the Adjutant General, United States Army, Washington, 25, D. C., will be available at the Post Office Building headquarters of the military district after Tuesday. Later, application forms will be made available for distribution by veterans' organizations and the various branches of the armed forces.

Philadelphia—July 29-30-31

JOHN WOOTEN'S CHARMING WIFE FOR AUXILIARY

John H. Wooten, former sergeant with Div. Hdq., and his charming wife, are living at 117 French Ave., Westmont, N. J.

Mrs. Wooten writes she has been trying to get John to pay his Association dues for a long time and he keeps saying he'll write later. So she shows herself not only his pal, but a friend of the Association, sits down, writes a nice letter and sends in the dues.

Mrs. Wooten apologizes for John though, says he hasn't gotten over the thrill of being a papa. Little Judith was born Christmas.

The Wootens recently moved to the 117 French Ave. address after buying the place.

The letter praises the Philadelphia Chapter, and Mrs. Wooten says she is elated that John was selected as one of their Board of Governors. But she isn't yet satisfied. Until the Philadelphia Chapter has an Auxiliary like Pittsburgh, Mrs. Wooten says there will always be something lacking.

Quoting from the letter: If you have a small space in The Octofoil (which I read through before I even finish the bottles or the formula for the baby), I would like to say we would appreciate hearing from Albert Lozano, Art Heim, Joe Gila and Willie Viebrock and any of the boys who remember John. (Patting The Octofoil's back like that she knew it'd be printed regardless of what else might be left out.)

Millard Rue's Pretty Wife, Pinch-Hitting For Former Go-Devil

Millard Rue evidently knows how to pick 'em, judging from the sweet expression of words Mary (Mrs. Millard) Rue puts into her letters. Millard was with the 60th through Africa, Sicily, England, France, Belgium, Germany and Austria. They now live on Rt. 2, Ballston Spa, N. Y.

Mrs. Rue sent in one of the cutest little pictures ever to be printed in The Octofoil. It is their son, Alden, five months old, all fixed up in Pappy's comfortable living room chair. Mrs. Rue says any small corner of The Octofoil Alden's picture might appear she knows Millard would see it because he reads the sheet, every word, from cover to cover. (This picture business was supposed to be a surprise to Millard, but it reached The Octofoil too late to get a cut made, but Alden's picture will certainly be in the next issue.)

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

Dianna Lee Drops In At Leo Hope's Home

A baby has arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo G. Hope, 680 City Park Ave., Columbus, Ohio. It's a future WAC and was born on May 29, 1948, at Grant Hospital, weighing in at 6 pounds and 14 ounces. The name is Dianna Lee Hope. She has eyes of blue. And inherits from her pappy the unusual trait of being quiet most of the time. The announcement advises Leo went through the ordeal without any visible signs of harm, and is rapidly recovering. He dropped into The Octofoil office perfectly sober and handed out some pretty good cigars.

Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

Taylor's "Boudoir"



Wilton Taylor takes the old pup tent up to high ground and enjoys a restful day overlooking the desert valley near which he works.

Philadelphia July 29, 30, 31

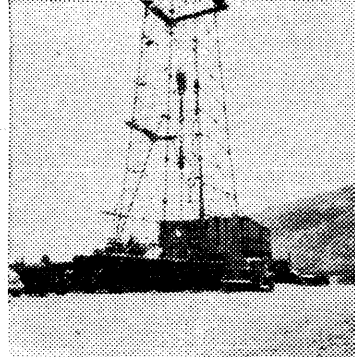
Due to Long Trip Taylor Points Out Hardship Endured

Wilton M. Taylor, Box 446, Taft, Calif., calls The Octofoil's attention to the amount of time necessary for any members living in California to spend in order to attend the Reunion. Taylor says only a few will be able to make it—and they will have to fly. He says that should cinch his argument that the next Reunion should be about mid-way from the down-Easterners and out-Westerners.

Wilton's brother, S-Sgt. Mark W. Taylor, recently married Miss Jean McKay of Sydney, Australia. Miss McKay flew from Australia to Texas. She and the sergeant spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. Quint Taylor, Sunset, Tex., father and mother of Wilton Sgt. Mark and three other sons who were all G.I.s during World War II. Like Wilton, Sgt. Mark was a machine gun man during combat days.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

California Oil Well



A familiar scene in that part of California The Octofoil's standby, Wilton Taylor, hangs out.

BILL MAUSER OUT FOR NEW MEMBERS

Bill Mauser, 6633 Bliss Ave., Cleveland 3, Ohio, in a letter to Secretary Tingley, thanks him for prompt answer to several inquiries previously made, and at the same time sends in a subscription to The Octofoil for Mr. and Mrs. John I. Eldridge, Chillicothe Rd., Aurora, Ohio. They are the parents of Lt. W. J. Eldridge, 84th F.A. Bn., who was killed at St. Lo. Bill says the Eldridges are most interested in all of the Association's activities.

Mauser advises Captain W.K. Adams is living at 183 Lamier Ave., Danville, Va., and Bill isn't going to let him alone until he's signed up in the Association.

After outlining his plans to be in Philly Bill thinks of another former Ninth man who should be a member and requests that someone turn on the heat. This party is Richard P. Schurhammer, 213 W. Homestead St., Medina, O., formerly of the 709th Ordnance.

Still carrying on his membership campaign, Bill says he's going to sign up a former top kick under President Rigby, and doesn't have to say any more than "Nick"—because there was only one REAL "Nick"—and he's running a pretty nice beer parlor in Akron, and it's an even bet Mauser now has \$10 and Nick's application.

In closing Bill says he hopes Doc Sating will leave his patients long enough to go to Philly. Bill, as he puts it, is looking forward to a few days of pleasant association with the best bunch the Army had. Only sorrow is that some of the best ones didn't get to come back. But he hopes as many of their parents, wives and friends can make the Reunion as possible.

Mauser also compliments Philadelphia's "Anon," who started the ball rolling for the Gold Star Mothers and Dads Fund, and he enclosed his contribution to the fund.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

George Dugan Sends Taylor a Nice Letter

NAMES SPELLED INCORRECTLY LAST ISSUE CALLED TO OCTOFOIL'S ATTENTION.

Again The Octofoil thanks Wilton Taylor, Box 446, Taft, California, for coming to the rescue and pointing out the misspelling of certain names in the last issue. The most legible writer makes letters at times that are difficult for the Linotype operators to follow correctly. If all the members will print their names when signing a letter and the same when referring to proper names in the text, many errors will be avoided. Says Taylor, Page 2, Column 5, last issue should have been Richard L. Kin Kinnon, 608 W. Spencer St., Creston, Iowa. (Not Ken-non.)

Lester E. Schwear, Rt. 4, Tip-ton, Ind., was misspelled. Column 5, Page 3, Pvt. Felix W. Wilkoski, Hdq., 1st Bn., 47th Inf., 219 Ave. C, Bayonne, N. J., was misspelled "Kilokouski."

Cpl. Midge Stamwic, Hdq. Co., 1st Bn., 47th Inf., 107 7th St., Harrison, N. J., was misspelled as "Stamewie."

Dear Wilton: Regarding your inquiry of the May issue of The Octofoil concerning some of the men who worked with you in the hills around Cefalu, Sicily—one of the men was from the 15th Engrs., Co. A, Edwin Prothero.

Ed was killed crossing the Meuse River below Dinont in Belgium. For three days we attempted to put across a pontoon bridge. On the third night we got part way across when they let go a mortar and machine gun barrage that caught us out on the bulge.

Sgt. Raymond Ulerich of Kokomo, Ind., carried in one man and then returned for Cpl. Prothero, who had been badly hit in the stomach.

Ed told him to get back, that it wouldn't do much good to risk his neck for him, because he himself wouldn't live. Ed's stomach was ripped to pieces by a mortar. He lay on the bridge until just before dawn when we heard his moans cease. He was a native of Pennsylvania and has a widow. He was married while at Fort Bragg.

Yours in Comradeship,
GEORGE Q. DUGAN,
Formerly Co. A, 15th Engrs.
Address: 41 Brent St., Dorchester, Mass.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

Actuaries have figured, on the basis of the number of transactions, that there are 8,000,000,000 chances of error in a single National Service Life Insurance account.

NEW YORKERS ELECT OFFICERS

FALL PLANS FOR PITTSBURGH PUT LADS IN THE BIG LEAGUE

By WILLIAM J. HILTON,
Recording Secretary,
Greater Pittsburgh Chapter,
57 Maplewood Ave.,
Pittsburgh 5, Pa.

After a month of silence, your "Smokey City" reporter is back on the beam again. But, hold it a second, the fellows here in Pittsburgh informed me of the fact that I'm going to have trouble with our Chamber of Commerce if I didn't stop referring to Pittsburgh as the "Smokey City." After all, we do have smoke control here now and the latest reports are that our city is enjoying 50 per cent more sunshine than it ever has, so it looks like I have to look for a new title.

TWO MEETINGS A MONTH

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter holds two meetings each month, therefore I try to include the news from the second meeting in my report also, as this particular meeting usually produces the majority of my material. But knowing that the deadline for this month has been shoved up a little I will have to just report on what little I have.

COMMITTEE WORKING

For the past couple of months our Resolution Committee has been working hard on their donations to the various committees at the coming convention. A couple of evenings from now the committee is to get together for the last time, at which time they shall whip all resolutions into shape for presentation to the assembly at our regular meeting on Friday, June 18, 1948. The final say so on the resolutions will be up to the assembly, then I shall mail the final results to Association Headquarters as per requested.

PRESIDENT HAS TO RESIGN

At our regular Friday meeting on May 21, 1948, the Chapter received a very tough blow. Our President, Walter A. Millstine, found it necessary to resign his office. In the future he will be out of town a great deal on business, and in his own words, "I feel that any man holding an office should be able to attend all meetings in order that he be able to discharge his duties in the very best way that he can. Therefore, at this time I am tendering my resignation." With such a reasonable reason given the assembly accepted his resignation.

APPOINTMENTS MADE

According to the By-Laws of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter, it is the President's duty to appoint men to fulfill any office which is vacant, therefore, before stepping down President Millstine made the following appointments which shall remain in force until our next election, which is due to be held in December:

Vice President: Raymond E. Pifer was appointed to the Presidency. Robert W. Buck was appointed to the Vice Presidency.

Financial Secretary: Arthur E. Schmidt was appointed to Treasurer. Oliver O. King was appointed Financial Secretary.

Recording Secretary: William J. Hilton to remain in office since no one else desires the backbreaking job.

HARMONY PREVAILS

I guess some of you fellows think the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter has internal troubles what with the number of changes in officers all of the time, but I can assure you all that this definitely is not so. When a man in

this Chapter is elected to office he does his best, and when he finds that he can't attend regularly to uphold his end of the load he resigns in favor of someone who can. This shows the fellows in the Chapter have the well-being of the unit in mind all of the time.

AUXILIARY ON THE BEAM

Is there anyone in the Ninth Infantry Division Association who doesn't know that the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter has formed an up and coming WOMAN'S AUXILIARY? If you haven't heard about it before then you haven't been reading your OCTOFOIL. Anyway, the ladies of the Auxiliary are very happy to report that starting on the first Friday of July and continuing the first Friday of each month thereafter they shall meet in the Corporation Room of the Commonwealth Bldg., Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. The ladies have been trying to get a meeting place of their own since their formation and finally swung the deal. So, all you gals, please come on out and help the ladies with their problems. Park the kids with their respective pappies and join the ladies.

BIG TREAT

Well, all you Ninth Div. fellows in the Pittsburgh Area, there is going to be a big treat in store for you when October rolls around. I mentioned a couple of times before that this Chapter was making arrangements for a really big banquet and dance in the fall. Well, the date has been definitely set as OCTOBER 9, 1948. The place will be the Roosevelt Hotel on Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. We have some really great plans on deck for entertainment, so keep that date open you fellows and gals, because it is going to be one of the biggest events in the history of the Chapter, and after you get home you will always have the pleasure of looking at some really worthwhile souvenir, that will remind you of one of the most pleasant evenings you ever spent. So, once again, I say to you, put a big red ring around October 9 on your calendar, because that is definitely going to be the red letter day of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter.

PAY YOUR DUES

Hey, you guys, from the Pittsburgh Area who paid your dues direct to Association Headquarters—how about dropping me a post card and letting me know if you paid your dues direct. If you did, then you are entitled to a membership card in this Chapter, but unless you tell me about it, I can't do a thing about sending you a card. So spend a penny and let me know.

WOMEN WILL HELP

There is one little thing I forgot to mention when I was giving you the lowdown on the coming banquet—the WOMAN'S AUXILIARY is going to take care of the decorations and what have you, so they are going to need lots of help and a lot of ideas. So if any of you ladies have an idea that will go over big, why join the women at their meetings and tell them what you think.

(Ed's. Note: Hilton sent along a photo that will bring back many fond memories. It was received a bit too late to get a cut made for this issue. It will be used in the Convention Edition next month.)

Well, for this time that is all there is to tell so, until a little later I duck back into my foxhole and let the blasts roar.

Pride of Co. "G," 47th



SGT. JAMES A. SINES,
Formerly Co. "G," 47th Regt.
The above picture was one of several sent to The Octofoil by Archie Rohrer, Church Ferry, N. Dak., of former Co. G, 47th men. Archie failed to say in his letter where "Deacon" Sines is living now.

COLUMBUS GROUP PLAY PROMINENT PART IN CEMETERY DEDICATION

Many ranking officers of old-line veterans' organizations in Columbus still can't understand how the Ohio Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association outranked their organizations when letters were sent out for groups to meeting in Memorial Hall to formulate plans for the dedication of the 3300 veteran graves at Greenlawn Cemetery.

Glenn O. Moore, President of the Ohio Group received the following letter prior to the meeting:

Dear Sir: The County Commissioners of Franklin County recently purchased a plot in Greenlawn Cemetery to be dedicated for use as an exclusive burial ground for veterans of Franklin County. The plot selected is located in a prominent and beautiful section of the cemetery and has a capacity of approximately 3300 graves. Since its purchase the plot has been further beautified by additional appropriate landscaping.

Suggestion has been made that dedication of the plot to its intended use should be made with appropriate ceremonies participated in by veterans and veterans organizations as well as the general public. To this end, Mr. C. P. Lauderbaugh, President of the Board of County Commissioners has appointed Dr. Wayne Brehm, Chairman, Mr. Harry Goldberg, Treasurer, and the undersigned as Secretary of a Committee to be formed to plan and carry out an appropriate dedicatory program.

In order to effectively accomplish this sacred mission you are invited to designate a representative of your organization as a member of the committee to meet with similar representatives for the purpose of planning and carrying out a program which will appropriately dedicate this hallowed ground.

The meeting will be held at Memorial Hall on Thursday, June 3, at 8 p. m. in Post Room No. 1.

Yours very truly,
G. M. WARD, Secretary.

MOORE, PLUNKETT ATTEND

Glenn O. Moore, President of the Ohio Chapter, and Paul S. Plunkett, editor of The Octofoil attended the meeting as representatives of the Ohio group, and many of the suggestions made by the two were accepted and inaugurated by the entire committee.

CAPT. DOWNEY LEAVES

All ex-G. I.s know the top brass in the War Dept. "moves in a most mysterious manner, their wondrous to perform," but just why in the devil they had to shanghai Captain Billy R. Downey away from the jurisdiction of the Ohio Chapter is a touchy \$64 question with Ohio members. The Captain was recently ordered to report to Fort Ben Harrison, Indianapolis, Ind. He was always in attendance at the meetings and never failed to pitch in and help with all projects.

PROPOSED LADIES' AUXILIARY MAKING GREAT STRIDES --- FIRST MEETING DATE SOON TO BE ANNOUNCED

AL BRUCHAC ELECTED PRESIDENT; NEW BOARD OF GOVERNORS SET-UP BIDS FAIR TO HELP GREATER NEW YORK GROUP ATTAIN BETTER RESULTS.

By STANLEY COHEN, Publicity Director

The May 25th meeting of the New York Chapter was devoted to nominating and electing the new officers for the coming year. For general officers: President, Al Bruchac; First Vice President, Jim Bruno; Second Vice President, H. Seslowe; Secretary, Mike Gatto; Assistant Secretary, John Waschin; Judge Advocate, Calvin Polivy; Sergeants at Arms, Getzy Schiff and Ernie Siegal; Publicity, Stanley Cohen; Chaplain, Father Anthony De Laura.

FLASH ---

Just as the printers were putting the finishing touches to this page a short note was received from Calvin Polivy, former president of New York Chapter, announcing the next meeting of that Chapter would be June 25.

Cal also gave the address of his insurance and real estate office as 615 Columbus Ave., but failed to give his downtown law office address. So any of you Joes who crash the cooler will have to get another mouthpiece unless you already know the law office address. The real estate offices are located at 615 Columbus Ave.

NEW METHOD

The meeting paved the way for a new method of representation of the chapter's Board of Governors for 1949. The expressed feeling of many members on this motion was that it took an entire unit working harmoniously to win a war—and the same coordination should be applied for the chapter's Board of Governors. To have representation from each unit of the Division to work harmoniously to govern the New York Chapter. Every unit should have a voice in all business matters and voting strength to decide close votes. The majority of work has always been in the hands of a few men. This new method will be the incorporation of the membership at large to have an active working duty. Ten men representing the Division were elected to be on the new Board of Governors:

39th Inf.: Harry Wax and C. H. Heller.

47th Inf.: Jerome Shapiro and Vincent Guglielmino.

60th Inf.: H. Caldare and Les Ronay.

Div. Artillery: Marvin Etra and Cal Polivy.

Special Troops: Herbert Storbeck and Martin Gross.

INSTALLED JUNE 25

The newly elected officers will be installed at the next meeting of the New York Chapter on June 25, 1948, at 8:30 P. M. at the Hotel Times Square at 43rd St. and 8th Ave., in New York City. As usual, refreshments will be served to the membership.

AUXILIARY ON THE BEAM

The advances of the Ladies' Auxiliary have made such great strides that the opening meeting will be announced shortly.

PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

The New York Chapter has announced that a drive will be made to encompass all of the New York and New Jersey area to let men know in the far flung corners of the states of the Chapter's activities here in the city. Local newspapers will be used as contacts and as agents in disseminating information about the New York Chapter and of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Philadelphia in July

Now Hear This ---

The following Question and Answer Column was extracted from a recent issue of the New England Ninth Infantry Division Chapter's publication, "Sound-Off."

Q—I'd feel foolish going back to high school at my age, but I still want my diploma. Its there any other way to get it?—J. A. C., Lawrence, Mass.

A—Definitely. Go to the Massachusetts Department of Education on Newbury St., Boston, with a transcript of your scholastic record and be prepared to take a comprehensive General Education Test. If you already have had a high school course on U. S. History and if you pass the G. E. T. you will be presented with a State High School Equivalency Certificate. This certificate is enough to get you in most colleges.

Q—When I returned from Europe, all my souvenir weapons in excess of one were confiscated. Is there any way to get them back?—G. P. O., Worcester, Mass.

A—Yes, providing you have a receipt for them. Send your receipt and a written statement about your case to the A.G.O., War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

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—How many persons in the United States are eligible for Veterans Administration benefits?

A—It is estimated that more than 46,000,000 persons (living veterans and their dependents) may become eligible for VA benefits under present laws. By 1962, the figure is expected to rise to 62,300,000.

Q—I am the beneficiary of a \$10,000 National Service Life Insurance policy. Are the payments I am receiving subject to taxation?

A—No. The payments of National Service Life Insurance as such are wholly exempt from Federal taxation.

New Englanders Move Forward

Beer Was Good In Bragg Bull Pen



Roy Pendleton, Jr., Rt. 1, Gate City, Va., says no plush cushion tavern dispenses beer that tastes anywhere near as good as did the beer the old Ninth drank while lounging in the Fort Bragg "bull pen."

CHICAGO GROUP HOPE TO GET BIG CROWD TO VISIT PHILLY

WALT MAHON STIRRING UP ENTHUSIASM OF MEMBERS FOR TRIP TO REUNION.

A recent pep circular sent to members of the Illinois Chapter, Ninth Infantry Division Association, Box 855, Chicago 90, Ill., among other things, has this to say:

On reading a recent issue of The Octofoil one could not lay it down without having the urge to attend the National Convention in Philadelphia. Who could look through the pages without the desire to see his old buddies, the same gang he fought through Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany?

TRAVEL TOGETHER

At the last meeting of the Illinois Chapter there were suggestions by the members on the possibilities of attending the Philly Reunion as a group thereby cutting expenses and having a darn good time. This is a terrific opportunity for those who want to go to Philly but find it difficult. To date over 15 have indicated there willingness to attend the convention.

BEACH PARTY

Plans for the summer are to include a beach party, ladies' night (to be held at the Atlas Brewery) and stag party.

STATE CONVENTION

We have finally gotten squared away on our State Convention, which will be held at the Congress Hotel September 25, 1948.

Judging from The Octofoil all the Chapters are going along very nicely. It looks as though they have shaken out of the Post-War reconversion stage and will now start to build.

LIKES "MASCOT"

Second Vice-Pres. Walter Mahon in another letter addressed

directly to The Octofoil confides thusly:

I was very happy to see "Corky's" picture in The Octofoil, along with the cute article on her. I believe advertising her presence in Philly at the Reunion will increase attendance. I personally reserve the right to buy her a drink on behalf of Chicago.

STEERING COMMITTEE

A Steering Committee to discuss the national and state conventions and the Illinois group's June meeting was recently held in Mahon's office and was attended by Johnny Edwards, Herb Wapler, Frank Ozart, Nate Gaynor, Phil Barnes, George Wade, Jud Fuller, John Thornton, Lindenberg, Jerry Lindner, Bill Conley, Alex Wilcopolksia and Otto Kerner, as well as many of the newer members.

LEAVING CHI EARLY

Mahon suggests that the Octofoil print a request that the presidents of the various Chapters arrange to be in Philadelphia at least one day before President Rigby wields the gavel for the official opening, in order that they may talk over Chapter problems. Any Chapter president favoring such a conference should contact Mahon at the address given above.

He feels working out problems informally will streamline and expedite the transaction of business on the Convention floor.

MONTE CARLO

A recent meeting held in Chicago was a big success. It was what they called Monte Carlo Night (with stage money). The persons winning the most money were awarded prizes. The booby prize went to George Waite's sister—a can of K rations.

Mahon dealt black jack for four hours and says, even if it's stage money those Chicago lads play for blood.

WHAT COOTIES REALLY ARE

A recent issue of The V. F. W. 1669THER, published by Acorn Post 1669, VFW, Royal Oak, Mich., printed a lengthy article by Supreme Commander Richard Hodges, in which he tells non-Cooties just what Cootieism really is. Parts of the story follow:

MOC has been in existence for more than 25 years, it is not so well known to the general public. When it makes "nits" out of initiates it does so in the privacy of the Pup Tent.

When it has a Supreme Scratch simultaneously with the National Encampment of the VFW, it does so without fan-fare or foo-faraw. The boys stay off the streets and have their fun indoors.

Under Past Supreme Commander Galloway we started to build Cootie Field at our National Home. It took four years to raise the funds to complete the project. It was dedicated under Past Supreme Commander Ashley Beck. Under Past National Commander in Chief Merrill of our parent organization, the hospitalization program was turned over to the Cooties.

WHEATON STARTS LIBRARY

Our second project was the raising of funds for the swimming pool, which was named after our Past Supreme Commander Dan Tarantola, who lost his life in the South Pacific.

When our present Supreme Senior Vice "Tommy" Wheaton was Grand Commander of Michigan, he started the Cootie Library and we now have one of the finest libraries at the National Home that would do credit to any library in the country.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Cooties hold a Christmas Party every year at the Home for our boys and girls.

In closing, Commander Hodges says: "I wish to state it was a Cootie who was responsible for our Home at Eaton Rapids."

Philadelphia in July

Co. G, 47th "Joe"



WILLIAM PASKERT,

The "Problem Child" of Co. G, 47th, is now living on the Ohio River, at Newport, Ky. Philadelphia in July

MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

There's an old story that pays a left-handed compliment to a father. It was told by an Irish woman at a wake. She was bragging about her husband. She said, "Every Saturday night when Pat comes home from work, he always hands me his pay envelope."

Then she noticed a neighbor woman, who was in the group, wink to another. "Of course," the Irish woman added, "there is never anything in the envelope, but it's the principle of the thing that counts with me."

Philadelphia in July

When the nation's population of veterans and members of veterans' families reaches its expected peak of 60,000,000 in 1955, Veterans Administration predicts that the number of veterans of all wars will be 17,200,000, and the number of persons in their families, 42,900,000.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER ADVISES OF AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT IN NEXT ISSUE OF SOUND-OFF

NEXT TWO ISSUES OF SOUND-OFF TO BE MAILED OUT TO FORMER MEMBERS WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE ON FILE; BUT BETTER GET IN THAT \$3.50 FOR DUES.

By VICTOR A. CAMPISI,

Secretary and Director of Publicity, New England Chapter Ninth Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 892, Boston, Mass.

BOSTON, Mass.—And now Sound-Off, the monthly newspaper published by the New England Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, is about to embark upon a circulation policy modeled after that initiated by the national publication, The Octofoil. This was decided

by general approval of the body at a recent monthly meeting of the unit held at the First Corps Cadet Armory, Arlington St., Boston, Mass.

The next two issues of Sound-Off will be mailed to all members and former members whose addresses are on file, it was decided. But—following the next two issues, circulation will be restricted to those who have paid 1947 and/or 1948 dues!

KICK IN

So those of you who wish to continue receiving this informative little paper better start kicking in pronto with your dues, if you haven't already done so. Remember, dues are \$3.50 per year and payable in cash, check or money order to the New England Chapter, 9th Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 892, Boston, Mass.

If you have not been a prior member of the Association, there is an initiation fee of \$1.50 to add to your \$3.50 dues, thus making a total of \$5.00. However, this does not entitle you to the soon-to-be mailed Division history, "Eight Stars to Victory." Another \$5.00 will take care of this matter. So whaddya say, fellas, start kicking in with the moola and continue receiving your own Chapter newspaper.

SECOND CLASS

We also wish to remind you at this time that Sound-Off is mailed as second-class matter with 1½¢ postage. This means if the addressee has moved, the paper is not forwarded to the new address but goes to the Dead Letter Office for disposal. Therefore, it is imperative that your chapter be notified immediately of all change of addresses so that our files can be kept up to date and so that Sound-Off may continue to reach you. O. K.?

CONNOLLY AT THROTTLE

Past President Martin D. Connolly presided at the last meeting in the absence of President James E. Flanagan. At the termination of the two-hour, well conducted meeting, Connolly remarked that never before had the Chapter conducted itself with such decorum, propriety and adherence to the rules of parliamentary procedure.

Though there have been longer meetings in the past, it is doubtful that they transacted any more business. This is a classical illustration of the efficiency which can be attained through order and discipline.

WELL-HEELED FINANCIALLY

Though the April 17th State Convention was conducted on a non-profit basis so that there could be a reunion of the maximum number of buddies at a minimum cost, Treasurer Ronnie Murphy's financial report showed that a slight profit resulted which amounted to less than 5 per cent of the gross take for the affair. His report further showed that the Chapter bank account was still definitely in the black with no indication of financial deterioration. At this point, Presiding Officer Connolly observed that the New England Chapter has been solvent since the days of its inception. Some record, eh Doc?

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Sydney Levison's motion, seconded by D'Amore, to have an auditing committee, was carried, but in the absence of President Jim Flanagan, no official appointments were made. However, pending official recognition and appointment, Levison, DuLong and D'Amore volunteered their services for the auditing committee.

LEVISON ON THE BALL

This guy Levison is quite a live wire. He's chairman of the Committee to Visit Returned 9th Division War Dead, chairman of the Raffle Committee and tentative chairman of the Auditing Committee. And if I checked further, I'd probably find he's chairman of several other committees. No wonder President Flanagan looks at Levison and murmurs "Love that man!"

MAY CHANGE DATES

A move is underway to change the meeting night. At present, the Chapter meets regularly at the same place (First Corps Cadet Armory, Arlington, St., Boston), and on the same time (8:00 P. M. on the last Tuesday of each month). It was successfully moved to postpone discussion on the matter until the first fall meeting. Your inquiring reporter, in informal questioning, discovered that Monday night seems to be the most popular substitute.

It was also decided to postpone appointment of the Chapter delegates to the seven committees for the National Convention until the next meeting.

Speaking of the next meeting—a special meeting will be held on June 15 at the same old stand for the purpose of holding the drawing for the Chapter raffle. This meeting will also take the place of the regularly scheduled meeting which ordinarily would take place on Tuesday, 29 June. So, remember, there will be no meeting on the last Tuesday of this month.

WATCH FOR SOUND-OFF

Watch for your next issue of Sound-Off for an important announcement concerning a Chapter-conducted August outing. An outing committee, composed of suave Henry Handelman, dapper Martin D. Connolly, genial Jim Kelly and ex-secretary Frank (Call me "Porky") Page will make its first report at the June 15th meeting.

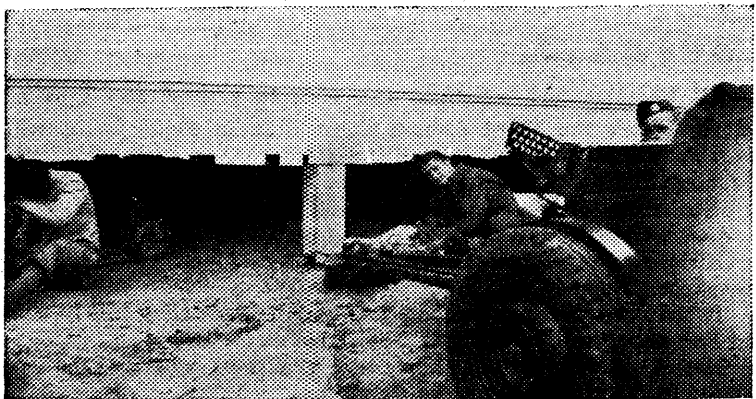
That's all for today, but remember—pay your dues so that you may continue to receive Sound-Off; keep your Chapter notified of change of address so that the files may be kept up to date and so that you may continue to receive Sound-Off, and support your Chapter so that it may grow and so that eventually you may receive a bigger and better Sound-Off.

That Ozark Corporal



WALTON D. PURDY, Rt. 5, Box 2277-A, Pine Bluff, Ark. Served well with the Medics.

Those Were the Good Old Days



Picture above made at Fort Bragg by George Ginsberg, 1140 White Plains Rd., Bronx 60, N. Y., shows Cpl. James P. Bauer, Anti-Tank, 60th, cleaning his equipment. Ginsberg is searching high and low trying to locate Bauer.

Although only two percent of the nation's doctors are qualified psychiatrists, 60 percent of the Veterans' Administration medical load consists of patients requiring psychiatric care.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

Of the 200,000 Veterans' Administration employees, 87 per-

cent of the males and 17 percent of the women are veterans.

Philadelphia July 29-30-31

During 1947, Veterans' Administration contact representatives for veterans' benefits, and wrote 4,442,000 communications helped prepare 7,225,000 applications pertaining to these benefits.

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

WRITES HOME AND ADVISES IT IS NO USE TO SEND PARCELS BECAUSE THE KRAUTS ROB THEM BLIND

BEMOANS TRAGEDY WAR BRINGS NOT ONLY TO THE SUFFERING G.I.'S BUT TO THE WOMEN AND UNBORN CHILDREN OF ANOTHER GENERATION

By VIC J. WOJTAS,
1729 N. Wood St., Chicago, Ill.

In another vividly portrayed chapter taken from the diary Vic Wojtas kept while a P.O.W., The Octofoil brings to Association members a first-hand account of the hardships and unbelievable experiences endured by those buddies who survived the ordeal. Taken verbatim from Vic's diary is the following statements:

STALAG 3-B

MARCH 2, 1944

Two thousand five hundred American Prisoners of War will never forget March 2, 1944.



Wojtas

EIGHT MORE

Besides confiscations or shakedown of March 2, we had eight shakedowns on a smaller scale, minus the Gestapo.

The Germans give us the alibi that we hold a surplus of foodstuff, which gives reason why they rob us blind.

In the shakedown of March 2nd my parcel buddy and I lost several cans of concentrated orange, 28 packs of cigarettes, 15 D-Bars, 24 bars of soap, two cans of butter and a few of our souvenirs.

REASON FOR WRITING

This was the reason why I wrote home and stated not to send parcels. The Germans were and still are robbing us blind.

We American Prisoners of War are wondering whether the above has ever been mentioned in the Red Cross Bulletin.

WRITTEN OCT. 18, 1944—

Love and Loneliness

These wounds take a long time to heal. That is one reason why the loss of men in war is a desperate two-fold tragedy, not only for the young who suffer and are killed, cheated of their lives, but for the women who must live on without them; the bitter loneliness of women who must live out their days without love, companionship, and children. That is why Hitler is a monster. He is a biological sports. He curtails and diverts into channels of destruction the natural creative impulse. Because of him not only do millions of people die but millions will not be born. The great reforms, and the great inventions, the books and music which should have come from the next generation which will never be.

The next generation will never be, because instead of begetting their children, the young men are lying dead by the thousands, burn-

ed up in planes, rotting at the bottom of the sea, crushed and suffocating in overturned tanks. The destruction and appalling waste which those who remain must somehow make up, are staggering, and one wonders if even the Germans themselves, as they go heaving and goose stepping, killing and dying through the world, do not have fleeting moments of doubt.

Does not German mothers ever ask themselves what was gained, when even the censors can no longer keep from her the news that her son is dead?

GERMAN GIRLS

What do German girls think when first one and then another and then a third young man fails ever to come home again? No matter how hysterical the young ladies' attachment to him, it is not the Fuehrer who will be their life's companion. To think that you have crushed Czechoslovakia must be a cold substitute for a pair of arms around you and a warm mouth on yours, and it is odd that nations of slaves a thousand miles away are not so satisfactory as one free man by your side. Perhaps you will find you have no need for the Lebensraum he killed and died to get. It would do you no good to go into those conquered countries in search of young men; their own women would be there looking at you with stony eyes, and neither the men nor the women would understand that you are a member of a superior race.

Sometimes you forget just why you are, but you know it is so, because Der Fuehrer said it.

If you are a young German girl and you look at a map of the Third Reich, spread like a cancer over Europe, surely a little gold flame must lick at your heart when you think of the hundreds and thousands of other girls who want men too, who want to live a woman's full life, but who are likely to find when the Heiling dies away that the only ones left are the old and the maimed, or those with minds brutalized by the new order or twisted by torture and privation.

4TH PLT. WEAPONS

Platoon Headquarters:
Platoon Leader—Lt. A. De-Decker, wounded, P.O.W.
Platoon Sergeant—S-Sgt. Vic Wojtas, P.O.W.

Basics—Pfc. Davis,
Messenger—Pvt. Dom. Barardi,
Transportation Corp.—Cpl. E. Dillman.

Drivers—Pfc. Ferrato, Pvt. Tomiolo.

MORTAR SECTION

Section Sergeant — Sgt. Ray Tahczyk (wounded).

First Squad

Corporal—Crivelli (wounded).
First Gunner—Pfc. Holleman.
Second Gunner—Pfc. Morgan-gillo.

Amm. Pvt.—Jake Kopman.

Amm. Pvt.—Schutt.

Second Squad

First Gunner—Pfc. Yahne.

Second Gunner—Pfc. I. Port.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Lewis.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Gregory.

Third Squad

Corporal—Sims, G. M.

First Gunner—Pfc. R. Roscetti.

Second Gunner—Pfc. Frey.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Whittle.

Amm. Carrier — Pvt. Susko, wounded.

MACHINE GUN SECTION

Section Sergeant—Sgt. Cosmo Crovella (killed).

First Squad

Corporal—J. Martin.

First Gunner—Pfc. J. Parker, killed or wounded.

Second Gunner—Pvt. S. Adams.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Knight.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Griswold.

Second Squad

Corporal—F. Mayer, G. M.

First Gunner—Pfc. W. Tylutki, killed or wounded.

Second Gunner—Pvt. C. Sitras-ki.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. C. Molg-man.

Amm. Carrier—Pvt. Hall.

Third Platoon—Howard Schille, wounded.

Third Platoon — Sgt. Marsh, wounded.

Third Platoon — Cpl. Quinn, wounded.

LIVING CONDITIONS

IN STALAG 3-B

January 30, 1945—

To start with, the outer barracks: We all admit the barracks look fair from the outside with the exception of a few windows missing. Now let us continue the tour and go into the billet. Here we find three hundred and seventy-three men living in a very crowded condition. (The barracks should house 125 to 150 men, no more.)

Cooking facilities are worse than ever with one stove; 2x3 feet is the size of the plate on which 373 men try to warm their foods. Can you women picture you serving under the same circumstances, doing your cooking? Lack of fuel is another barrier. Cold and damp barracks which forces us to spend most of our time in our bunks, which are infested with bed bugs and sand fleas. After awhile a person gets used to them. Then in some ways they help to keep us warm, with their biting and our scratching. Still another barrier are the lights. We can't write too often due to the poor lighting with 25-watt bulbs.

Now let us continue our tour of Stalag 3-B, Germany and take you to our open air latrine, where we find a smell that turns a good man's gut with the nasty feeling of vomiting. You see drains used for urinations. These same drains are closed from 9 to 11 months of the year. When a man does his duty, it's a pleasure getting out into the fresh air.

INQUISITIVE LETTER
I received a letter from home, written by Mary, asking how I found the air amongst the pines. That's just some more propaganda they feed you people. Who lives this life in Stalag 3-B, we American Prisoners of War or the Red Cross officers? In answer to the question, there isn't a tree or any type of shrubbery in our compound. They must have told you people what the Germans feed us too?

Well, here's my story: Breakfast? Cup of tea or coffee—it is ersatz and weak at that. Dinner: They call it soup, usually barley, rutabagas or potato soup. Most of the time we find worms and maggots in the soup. But in the long run you get use to these. As the boys would say: "More meat." Supper: Ersatz tea or coffee, a piece of bread, four or five potatoes. If you are lucky it is six potatoes. A teaspoon of sour cheese, or ersatz jam, with maggots, of course. This is the daily German ration to an American Prisoner of War. Wonder if the Red Cross told you people they feed us steak, or maybe chicken, with ice cream for dessert?

(Read next month's interesting experiences of Vic Wojtas while held a P.O.W. There are at least three more all-absorbing chapters to be printed of this unusual document.)

PHILLY HOTEL RATES

JULY 29, 30, 31, 1948 ARE THE BIG DAYS IN PHILADELPHIA FOR THAT THIRD ANNUAL REUNION.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD AT 1100 RIDGE AVE., FIRST THURSDAYS; ATTEND THEM AND HELP WITH THE HUNDREDS OF DETAILS NECESSARY BEFORE REUNION.

Many surprises are in store for former Ninth Division men and their guests or friends who make Philadelphia a MUST on their agenda for July 29-30-31. President Rigby, by telephone and Special Delivery, has given The Octofoil much information—some of which is being passed on to the members—the rest will be a "dark secret" until the curtain raises on the Association's Third Annual Reunion.

**The Ninth Infantry Division Third Annual Convention
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOTEL (Headquarters)
Ninth and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Send this coupon directly to the hotel, properly checked (X) as to the kind of room desired.

PREVAILING RATES...

☐ SINGLE ROOMS WITH BATH—

() \$4.50 () \$5.00 () \$5.50 () \$6.00 () \$7.00

☐ DOUBLE ROOMS, DOUBLE BED WITH BATH—

() \$6.50 () \$7.00 () \$7.50 () \$8.00 () \$9.00

☐ DOUBLE ROOMS, TWIN BEDS WITH BATH—

() \$8.50 () \$9.00 () \$10.00

☐ PARLOR SUITES (PARLOR, BEDROOM AND BATH)

() \$15.00

☐ SAMPLE ROOMS—

Large room with double bed and bath, suitable for Chapter Headquarters or for sleeping accommodations on cots up to eight persons:

() \$8.00 () \$9.00 () \$10.00 () \$12.00

Cots placed in above rooms \$2.50 per cot per day.

NAME

(Please Print Name)

ADDRESS

Date of Arrival: July (29) (30) (31)

Time of Arrival: _____ A. M.; _____ P. M.

NOTE—All reservations to be sent direct to the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Ninth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

Be sure to fill in correct address. The Hotel will confirm all reservations by postal card.

BRING YOUR WIVES, SWEETHEARTS, MOTHERS... ENTERTAINMENT FURNISHED FOR EVERYONE!

Notice...

All Chapters and members who wish to present any type of business before the Third Annual Convention in Philadelphia, will please submit all proposals in writing (two copies) to the National Secretary, Charles O. Tingley, P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C., for distribution to the appropriate Committee Chairmen.

Committees to date are:

History - Convention - Policy and Chapter - Finance and Budget - Newspaper - Nominating - Miscellaneous.

If the need develops for additional committees they will be created and notice will be made in The Octofoil.

Names of the various Committee Chairmen will also be announced in the next issue of The Octofoil.

NOTICE TO CHAPTERS

Each Chapter is requested to designate one man to each Committee. Please send names to Charles O. Tingley, Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C., within the next month.

At the Convention two non-Chapter members will be selected to serve on each Committee.

ALL BANQUET TICKETS WILL HAVE TO BE SECURED THROUGH THE SECRETARY-TREASURER, CHARLES O. TINGLEY, P. O. BOX 1704, WASHINGTON 13, D. C.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY S. RIGBY, JR., President,

Ninth Infantry Division Association,

918 Land Title Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

A. T. CO., 47TH, FINALLY SEND PHOTOS



Joseph J. Nascento, 84 Terrace Place, Brooklyn 18, N. Y., sends in the above picture of former A. T. Co. 47th men. The picture was made in France, and Joe hopes some of the gang will recognize themselves in the picture and drop him a line at the address given above.