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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, March/April 1967

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

NUMBER XX
NUMBER 5

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$4.00 per year — \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for The Octofoil

Columbus, Ohio 43206 — 286 Zimpfer St. — 444-9709

March-April, 1967

E. LANGER VISITS NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

IT'S A MUST FOR THE YOUNGSTERS TAKE A RIDE ON SWAN BOATS



Twenty-four acres of park situated in the heart of Boston are preserved by law as a public park. In the spring beds of tulips bloom throughout and children and parents delight in riding the Swan Boats, a true Boston tradition. In the background are the towers of three major Back Bay insurance companies, left to right: John Hancock, Prudential, and New England Mutual, in addition to the steeple of Arlington Street Church.

NEW YORKERS MOURN MARCH 28th DEATH OF AL LECHMANIK

The first to contact The Octofoil and advise of the untimely death of Al Lechmanik was National President Emil Langer, who wrote in part as follows:

New York Chapter members are experiencing a great sorrow. We lost our Al Lechmanik. It was such a shock to all of us. About 40 members showed up for the wake. It is so hard to believe he has gone. He will long be remembered. To his widow our hearts go out.

PRESIDENT WITZKIN WRITES

President Ralph Witzkin, 1569 Fabian Place, Hillside, N. J. 07205, writes The Octofoil thusly:

I want to thank all the members and their families for coming out to the funeral home in Union, N. J. to pay their last respects to our member, the late Albert L. Lechmanik. I am sure when I say "Thanks" that I am expressing also, the wish of his widow, Mrs. Margaret Lechmanik.

Words are always inadequate to describe the thoughts and feelings of a human being. It seems that there is nothing to be said except to be quiet and just pray for his soul. At the same time, however, as a human being, we are compelled to speak, and so as the President of this 9th Division Ass'n. (N. Y. Chapter) I would just like to say a few words, even though it be ever so inadequate.

Albert L. Lechmanik met his untimely death and entered into Eternal Rest at 1:00 A.M. March 28, 1967, which was God's will. He will always be remembered by us, as a man whose family and fraternal life was above reproach. He was sincere and equitable, honest and honorable in all his dealings and was a friend to all, and although his good heart was physically weak, in his later

years, it was always strong in generosity, as we of this Chapter are well aware of. His cheerful smile and countenance will be greatly missed and although his death leaves a void which will be hard to fill, we thank God for the few years that we were blessed with his friendship, while in the service of our Country and later on in civilian life. Needless to say, "He will be missed by all of us."

Therefore, let it be Resolved:

That this meeting when it adjourns tonight, that it do so in the name of and on behalf of all the Members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, with deep and sincere regret and in respect to the Memory of our late, ALBERT L. LECHMANIK.

"MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE"

At the funeral the following men acted as honorary pall bearers, outside the St. Theresa's Church in Kenilworth, N. J., inside the church and at the cemetery:

Ralph Witzkin
Jack Scully
John Rizzo
Vincent Guglielmino
Al Munatore

Additional information has been furnished The Octofoil by Arthur Schmidt, the New York Chapter correspondent. Schmidt advises that Al Munatore and President Witzkin were most helpful to the bereaved widow, Munatore helping to make necessary funeral home and grave plot arrangements. President Witzkin arranged for the Division and National Colors to be at the funeral home as well as arranging for the Fort Dix firing squad and bugler. A full military funeral as was be-

(Continued on Next Page)

Women Doing Okay

Sneaking a peep at the desk of the Women's Auxiliary Secretary Treasurer a day or two before publication of this issue quite a few dues remittances were noted. Just to mention a few of those sighted were: Mrs. Betty Davis 184 Academy St., Wilkes Barre, Pa. 18702.

Mrs. Casimir Przybylski, 1042 Dewey Ave., Evans, Ill. 60202.
Mrs. Martha Long, Bay Village, O.
Mrs. Roger Schaeffer, Akron, O.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

Al Will Be Missed



AL LECHMANIK AS A "GI"

Information on back of photo does not indicate date Al was wounded, just reading "Sgt. Lechmanik wounded Friday." Picture badly worn; impossible to reproduce into a good news cut.

OBSERVED NEW ENGLANDERS IN ACTION AT MARCH 10 MEETING HELD IN THE CITY OF WORCESTER, MASS.

The National President's visit to a New England Chapter meeting was an agreeable surprise for the New Englanders. After the proper greetings the group got right down to business, mainly matters that pertained to the 1967 Reunion to be held in Boston, July 20-22. President Langer advises that Ron Murphy is doing an outstanding job as chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

The last issue of The Octofoil carried a full list of Ronnie's committees and also a breakdown of the program as planned so far.

Next month a revised agenda will be printed and there will be very few if any changes made from that.

HELD AT COFFEE SHOP

President Langer says the meeting was held at Connors Coffee Shop and Father Connors was in rare good form and furnished the members an abundance of refreshments for the occasion.

Letters reaching The Octofoil from members in all parts of the country who have visited Boston on various business errands, are unanimous in praising the committee for having chosen the hotel that has been chosen as the headquarters hotel—the Sheraton-Boston.

Chapters are lagging in sending in ads for the Souvenir Program. Attention is called to the coupon printed in this issue of The Octofoil for the convenience of members and the chapters willing to help underwrite the cost of printing this beautiful souvenir by subscribing for an ad. Give attention to this much needed project NOW. The greater the volume of ads subscribed — the more elaborate arrangements for the Reunion can be made by the Reunion committee.

CONTACT HOTEL

Neither is it too early to clip out the hotel reservation blank and send it in to the Boston-Sheraton. The facilities at this hotel are the last word in hotel life. When the family returns to the old homestead after a week end at the Boston-Sheraton then and only then can they say—we've really lived high on the hog—and reasonably—considering everything we got for our money.

There are places to visit in the Boston area that any and every red blooded boy and girl should visit. The roots of America—the good old U.S.A., are firmly entrenched in this good old New England soil.

There are choice eating spots in Boston that are famous from Maine to California.

SUMMER TIME IS IDEAL

Many members of the Association have visited Worcester in early Fall to attend the Memorial Services held each year in Worcester by Father Ed Connors. (Worcester is 30 miles from Boston). That part of New England defies description at that time of year. But a trip to New England, a visit to the beaches and waterfronts, the beautifully colored wooded areas during the summer months is really something to behold!

Look for the next issue of The Octofoil—the final breakdown will be in print—and a few highlights that have been dark secrets up until now. Surprises—pleasant surprises—for all former Ninth men and their families who will be a part and parcel of this Boston Invasion of 1967 by the World War II Famous Ninth Infantry Division.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Maurice Tougas Near 1967 Reunion City

Maurice Tougas is now living in Central Falls, R.I., at 559 Flint St. Maurice was with the 15th Engrs.

He is looking forward to contacting an awful lot of former Engineers while in Boston this summer.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Flattery doesn't come from mirrors.

BOARD TO MEET IN PITTSBURGH

Secretary Quinn has mailed out notices to members of the National Board of Governors advising of a Board meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., which will be the 83rd Board meeting, and will be held at 3 P.M. on Saturday, April 29. The session will be held in the Pittsburgh-Hilton Hotel.

Items on the agenda include:

Progress Report on the 1967 Reunion.

Scholarship Committee report.

Report from Chapters.

Other miscellaneous reports.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

NEXT DEADLINE TO BE JUNE 15

The Octofoil will hold open a limited amount of space until June 15 for the next edition so as to have all the latest Reunion plans in that issue. It is a little risky to enter the postoffice with second class printed matter less than 30 days before it MUST be delivered. The conduct of U. S. Postal operations is always a problematical experience.

No pictures can be accepted after June 5th. Please cooperate. Do not wait until that final minute to send in material.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

26TH F.A. LOSES AN OLD-TIME MEMBER

The February 14 Boston and Concord newspapers printed news items and death notices about the death of a former Service Bty., 26th F.A. man—George Wilkinson. He was with the outfit at Bragg and went through it all to the bitter end, earning a Purple Heart along the way.

The ranks grow thinner each succeeding year. To the bereaved widow, Alice (Rider), daughter, Joan L., and son William G. along with the brothers and sisters, The Octofoil extends sincere condolences in behalf of the entire membership of the Association. George Wilkinson numbered his friends in the Ninth Infantry Division by his acquaintances—to know him was to love him.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Claude Sipe Passed On Back In August, 1961

Mrs. Claude Sipe, Rt. 3, Newton, North Carolina, advises The Octofoil that Claude passed away due to an unexpected heart attack on Aug. 1, 1961, leaving two young boys, who at that time were 14 years old and 4 years old.

Mrs. Sipe says Claude enjoyed reading The Octofoil very much until his untimely death.

Claude's many friends in the Association will be saddened by this news—and The Octofoil regrets not having been able to print the sad news in an earlier edition.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

MOORE REMEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Jim Moore of 826 Burns St., S.E., Washington, D.C., never pays his Association dues that he doesn't remember to make a donation to the Association's Scholarship Fund. He joined up with the Division in the Rhine River neighborhood.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!



★ THE OCTOFOIL ★

Forms 3579 should be sent to 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio
 EDITORIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES — COLUMBUS, OHIO
 Octofoil Editor.....PAUL S. PLUNKETT, 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio 43206
 Associate....."DICK" PESTEL, 1422 Dyer Road, Grove City, Ohio

★ NATIONAL OFFICERS ★
 EMIL LANGER, President, 30-07 89th St., Jackson Heights, N.Y.
 VINCENT GUGLIEMINO, 1st Vice Pres., 114 Charles St., Floral Park, L.I., N.Y.
 FRANCIS MAHER, 2nd Vice Pres., 14 Davenport St., Worcester, Mass.
 WILLIAM MEADOWS, 3rd Vice Pres., 19367 Dale, Detroit, Michigan
 HARRISON DAYSH, Judge Advocate, 4303 Carriage Court,
 Rock Creek Highlands, Kensington, Md.
 DANIEL QUINN, Secretary, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. (201-866-8195)
 THOMAS BOYLE, Treasurer, 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Mass. 02144

★ BOARD OF GOVERNORS ★
 1967—
 William Hennemuth, Mt. Pleasant, Ill.
 Ronald Murphy, Scituate, Mass.
 Emil Langer, Jackson Heights, N.Y.
 Arthur MacDougall, Philadelphia, Pa.
 1968—
 Charles Koskie, Schiller Park, Ill.
 Paul Keller, Columbus, Ohio
 Anthony Varone, Kings Park, L.I., N.Y.
 Robert Rumenapp, 28017 Hughes St.,
 St. Clair Shores, Mich.
 Brig. Gen. Edwin Randle (Ret.), 503
 Althea Rd., Clearwater, Fla.

★ The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association—offices located at 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$4.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$4.00 earmarked for six issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J., of any change in address.

★ Published six times yearly, July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to Paul S. Plunkett, Editor, The Octofoil, 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio.

★ An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th 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 of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

★ Copy must be received on or before the 10th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th. Photographs must be received on or before the 5th day of publication month.

★ Second-Class Postage paid at Columbus, Ohio. Authorized as of October 29, 1958.

VOLUME XX MARCH-APRIL, 1967 NUMBER 5

SON OF MR. AND MRS. TOM GRAY KILLED BY VIETNAM MORTAR FIRE

Charlie Tingley, the very capable and friendly past National Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, had the sad detail of informing The Octofoil that the beloved son of Col. and Mrs. Tom Gray, 1st Lt. Thomas M. Gray, Jr., was killed in action from enemy mortar fire while serving with the 1st Bn., 16th Inf., 1st Inf. Div., in Vietnam on February 24, 1967.

Tingley goes on to say: "Being as close to Tom and Peg Gray as my wife and I have been ever since our first meeting back in Fort Bragg days, we find this news very difficult to comprehend. We are still too shocked to prepare proper copy for use in The Octofoil."

It is difficult for anyone who is acquainted with this friendly couple to be able to prepare an obituary for Tim Gray, one of the finest specimens of America's much needed and desired youth. Tim was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., 27 years ago. He attended high school in Brookline, Mass. He graduated from the University of Maine at which time he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Reserves.

He married Dorothy Bradford. They made their home at 77 Mechanics St., Camden, Maine. Tim also leaves a married sister, Nancy, who is presently living in Scotland.

The third annual Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held in Pittsburgh in 1948. Tom and Peg Gray were spark plugs of the affair. Little Tim was their pride and joy—a vivacious full of fun little 9-year-old tyke, who met just about everyone who attended the Reunion because at one time or another Tom or Peg had as their guests just about everyone who attended the Reunion in their hospitable home—and Tim was always a gracious little host.

WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Tim Gray has been here in this world of tears and sorrows for a few short years—he has left a mark that Mother and Dad and the bereaved widow will always cherish in their minds and hearts. He has set a pattern that for American youths to follow in his footsteps will add to their stature.

This indeed has been a better world in which those who follow will live in because of 1st Lt. Thomas M. Gray, Jr. having lived his 28 short years—but filled with deeds and conduct of such magnitude that his life will always be a consolation to his loved ones.

The Octofoil joins with Tom and Peg Gray's innumerable friends in the Ninth Infantry Division Association and the young widow, and extends heartfelt sympathy in this hour of grief these fine people are experiencing.

At a time like this a re-reading of the fine works of the immortal James Whitcomb Riley written long ago—HE'S JUST AWAY might be consoling to Tim's surviving loved ones. It reads:

HE IS JUST AWAY

I cannot say and I will not say
 That he is dead—he is just away!

With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand
 He has wandered into an unknown land.

And left us dreaming how very fair
 It needs must be since he lingers there.

And you—O, you, who the wildest yearn
 For the old-time step and the glad return.

Think of him faring on, as dear
 In the love of There as the love of Here.

Mild and gentle as he was brave—
 When the sweetest love of his life he gave.

To simple things: Where the violets grew
 Blue as the eyes they were likened to.

The touches of his hands have strayed
 As reverently as his lips have prayed.

When the little brown thrush that harshly chirped
 Was as dear to him as the mocking bird.

And he pitied as much a man in pain
 A little honey bee wet with rain.

Think of him still as the same, I say:
 He is not dead—he is just AWAY.

—James Whitcomb Riley.
 —PAY 1967 DUES N.O-W!

North Carolina Gold Star Mother Writes

Tippie Plunkett, secretary-treasurer of The Ladies' Auxiliary sent The Octofoil a letter received from Mrs. Hetty Bullock, 911 Davis Court, Fayetteville, N. C. Mrs. Bullock sent a very nice note and included dues for 1967 in the Auxiliary.

Mrs. Bullock will be remembered as the Gold Star Mother who was so impressed with the Memorial Services during the Fayetteville Reunion. Secretary Quinn asked that the card be made out, but returned to Mrs. Bullock the money she had sent, advising that she and all the Ninth's other good Gold Star Mothers would always be honorary members of Association's Auxiliary.

★ PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O-W!

Time Is Just About Out!

Final date for World War II veterans to apply for GI loans is July 25, 1967! Each day is an individual deadline for many veterans since termination of eligibility is based on length of service.

★ PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O-W!
 A happy man is a vegetarian looking at prices in today's meat market.

AL LECHMANIK'S DEATH

(Continued from Preceding Page)
 fitting Al Lechmanik was the result of teamwork by his devoted comrades of the New York Chapter.

Following is a list of Ninth men paying their respect to Al at the McCracken Funeral Home, 1500 Morris Ave., Union, N. J.:

George Zipfel, Frank Russo, John Rizzo, Al Orletti, Fred Stegel, Bill Morrison, Vincent Guglielmino, Dan Quinn, Ed Egan, George Apar, Lou Almassy, Howard Boehm, Bill O'Shea, Frank Fazio, Emil Langer, Ralph Witzkin, Dominick Miele, Walter O'Keefe, Lenny Ricco, Anthony Reppeti, Steve Budushin, Jack Scully, Al Munatore, Adolph Wadalavage, Dave Gelman, Al Rago, Arthur R. Schmidt, Mike Yednak, Joe Vannia and Charles Warner. The distaff side was represented by Mrs. Quinn, Mrs. Rizzo, Mrs. Reppeti, Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Guglielmino and Mrs. Orletti.

A wreath shaped like the Octofoil—and in the colors of the Octofoil was sent to the funeral home. On the casket was Al's Association membership cap. Al was laid to rest in the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hanover, N. J., on March 31.

The Octofoil joins with Al Lechmanik's thousands of other friends and admirers and extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved widow and other loved ones left to mourn the most untimely death of one so near and so dear to them all—truly a beautiful character has passed on and left a void that can never be fully replaced.

★ PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O-W!

BONGIORNO'S MOTHER IS CALLED BY DEATH

The Boston and Lexington (Mass.) newspapers recently printed notices about the death of Mrs. Frances Bongiorno of Winchester.

Mrs. Bongiorno was the mother of William F. Bongiorno, who was a well-liked soldier of Service Battery, 26th F.A., from the days at Fort Bragg until after VE day.

The Octofoil joins with Bill's many thousands of former Ninth Division buddies in extending their sympathy at this time in the loss of his best friend. Bill's picture, as he looked in Bragg days is shown in this issue of the Octofoil.

★ PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O-W!

Old Pix of Bongiorno



Pictured above is an old 1942 picture of Bill Bongiorno made by Joe McKenzie, Waltham, Mass., at Fort Bragg. McKenzie sent to the Octofoil for publication in this issue the sad news that Bill's mother passed away recently.

THANKS FROM BETTY RIZZO

Mrs. Betty Rizzo has asked The Octofoil to convey her thanks to all the good people who sent her so many cheerful get well cards while she was hospitalized and undergoing surgery.

Betty saw many of her friends at the funeral chapel during the services held for the late Al Lechmanik. Given a few more days and Betty will be back in there just as good as brand-new.

Betty Rizzo (as if everyone didn't already know), is the wife of Past President of the New York Chapter John Rizzo.

★ PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O-W!

JOE PODANY HEADS FOR BOSTON, MASS.

A card reached The Octofoil a few days after March 1 signed by Joseph S. Podany, 2956 N.E. Benjamin St., Minneapolis, Minn. 55418, in which the former Co. B 47th lad advised that he would be in attendance at the Boston Reunion. A few hours later another card arrived that read: "WE" will be in Boston and was signed Edith and Joseph. Glad Joe caught the error and sent a follow-up card???

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

BOSTON-SHERATON HOTEL,
 Boston, Massachusetts

Please reserve for the undersigned, room reservations, as checked, for dates noted:

Name

Address (Street)

City State Zip

Single Room (), \$14 ... Twin Beds () \$18 ...

Children under 14, no charge; over 14, same room, \$3 ...
 Children in adjoining room, \$12

Parlor suites with one bedroom —

() \$28 ... () \$40 ... () \$45 ... () \$50

Parlor suites, 2 bedrooms —

() \$61 ... () \$66 ... () \$73

In and Out FREE Parking at all hours

Date of Arrival

Approximate Time of Arrival A.M.; P.M.

Date of Departure

REQUEST FOR SPACE IN SOUVENIR PROGRAM

THOMAS BOYLE, Treasurer

New England Chapter 9th Inf. Div. Assn.
 39 Hall Avenue
 Somerville, Mass.

Attached is copy for an ad in the color-printed 1967 Ninth Infantry Division Association Convention Program:

Full Page — \$25 ... Half Page — \$15 ... Third Page \$12

One-Quarter Page — \$10 ... One-sixth page — \$7

Booster Ads—\$1—name and unit. Create a Chapter Committee to solicit members for Booster ads. Send all ad copy, checks and money orders to Thomas Boyle, 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Massachusetts.

Inside front and back cover pages — \$30

Outside back cover page — \$30

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 901 Graceland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60016.

JOHNNY O'SHEA TO MISS MIXING WITH "BACK BAY IRISH"

All of the regular Reunion attendants will remember the smiling young Irishman who was always at the side of the one and only Jack O'Shea, Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter member and National Board of Governors member. The smiling young man was Johnny O'Shea — a nephew of Jack's and has accompanied Jack to nine Ninth Infantry Division Association Reunions. Johnny had looked forward to the 1967 Reunion. He was anxious to see what made those Back Bay Massachusetts Irish tick.

But Johnny O'Shea enlisted in the U. S. Army on February 16, 1967 and was assigned to FORT BRAGG for basic training. From Bragg to Fort Ord for 10 weeks of training at Leadership School and Advanced Infantry Training.

Johnny asks The Octofoil to extend his best wishes to the New England Chapter for a successful Reunion—and kindest regards to all those attending the Reunion—and accept his regrets for being unable to be present.

O'Shea's plans are to finish at Fort Ord in early June, and after a two-weeks furlough hopes to be assigned to some Officers Candidate School.

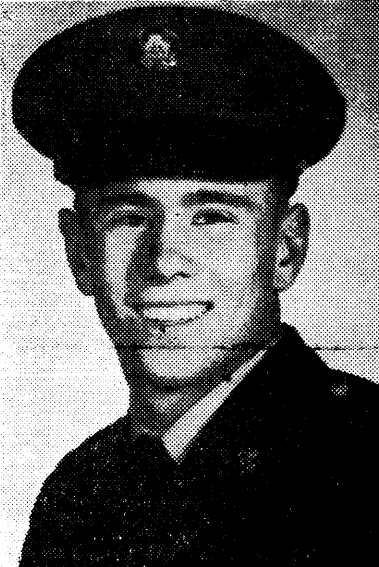
Johnny asks the old friends he has made at the many Reunions he has attended to drop him a line at this address:

Pvt. John O'Shea, RA 11860117
Co. C, 5th Bn., 2nd Bde.
Fort Ord, Calif. 93941.

Uncle Jack O'Shea's address remains the same: 941 South Ave. Apt. 47, Secone, Pa. 19018.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

Ireland's Contribution



PVT. JOHNNY O'SHEA
An Adopted Son of the Ninth
(See story about Johnny)

DAVIS FAMILY KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH 'EM

The Octofoil give up long ago trying to catalog all the helpful things Mrs. Jesse R. Davis is doing for the boys in Vietnam—other than their own son, Jesse, Jr., who is with the Fourth Division in Vietnam, their deeds would fill a big book. They read and re-read every line printed about the activity of the Ninth Division, now in Vietnam. Cards are sent to parents of youngsters who are wounded or killed in action. The Ninth Division lads who hail from their part of the world are on the Davis "hot line" mailing list—with timely messages and small remembrances.

If and when Gen. Westmoreland ever lands in the White House as a 4 or 8-year resident he can well thank Mrs. Davis for her dogged perseverance to that end.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

BONKOWSKI JOINS THE "TWILIGHT BRIGADE"

Past National President John Bonkowski "carried on" under an assumed name on March 17, 1967—but, whether it's just plain John Bonkowski or John O'Bank—he's always thinking of the Association. Right now the gods—that-be—the motor tycoons of Detroit, have his style cramped a little by rearranging his working hours forcing him to labor while others sleep. If they keep John on that shift he'll figure out a routine to keep his contacts going just as effectively.

The Octofoil is appreciative of the unique St. Patrick's Day card.

John is still plugging away hoping to get his old Recon buddies over on the sunny side of the street. They have been on the shady side for a long time. John Bonkowski's address is 19941 Hickory St., Detroit, Mich. 48205.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

Father De Laura Will Hold Memorial Services April 22...Luncheon Follows

By ARTHUR RICHARD SCHMIDT,
6920 69th Street
Glendale, Long Island, N. Y. 11227

Father De Laura has suggested that his Memorial Mass be held on April 22. The Chapter's regular Memorial Services in Farmingdale were scheduled to be held on May 20, 1967, at 11:30 A.M. Following the May 20 Memorial Services there will be a cook out at Bethpage State Park, Bethpage, L.I., N.Y. A luncheon will be held in the church parish following the Memorial Mass to be held by Father De Laura on April 22. Father De Laura will be present at the Memorial Services at Pinelawn National Cemetery on May 20.

MARCH 3 MEETING

Chapter President Ralph Witzkin opened the March 3 meeting by having Chapter Chaplain Al Lechmanik say the opening prayer for our departed buddies. Secretary Miele read minutes of last meeting. They were approved. Treasurer Irving Feinberg read the financial report. Copies of the report were distributed to the members present. There was discussion about the 50-50 Club. It was reported that the Christmas Party was the biggest ever with accompanying high expenses.

WHALEN ILL

Frank Fazio reported that Harry Whalen was very ill at home with a heart ailment. Dominick Miele then gave a membership report. With the current progress the indications were for an increase in the membership. Al Orletti, Chapter Sergeant at Arms, made the collection for the dark horse prize. Danny Quinn requested names of the winners of the 50-50 awards be published in the next meeting notice. President Witzkin mentioned the

April meeting would be held in honor of the Chapter's Past Presidents.

Danny Quinn gave a report on the progress of the Reunion Committee. The dark horse prizes were won by the following: Shirt—Miele; Shirt—Boehm; Shirt—Shapiro; Decanter Set—Umansky. Al Lechmanik donated the shirts. Jack Scully won a shirt. Ralph Vuolo, 44 Halstead, Kearney, N. J., is a paid up member in good standing in the Chapter; Frank Cernero 122 Pelenge Drive, Belleville, N. J. and Androes, 33 Clover St., Nutley, N. J., where new members present at the meeting.

NOTICES INFORMATIVE

The notices President Witzkin had mailed out for the April meeting were most informative. It was held in honor of Past Chapter Presidents. A printed list of the Welfare Committee selected along geographical lines, was printed as a part of the meeting notice, along with 50-50 winners. A printed financial report was also made a part of the mailing.

Bill Muldoon has mailed a clipping of March 14, 1967 from the Long Island Daily Press. Bill is a former Co. L, 47th man and lives at 86 Herman Ave., Bethpage, L. I. 11714. The news article refers to a Mr. Carl Esposito protesting an Army mixup in giving him news of his son's death in Vietnam. The soldier's name is Frank Esposito, Private First Class, Co. B, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Division. Muldoon states the parents may be eligible to be Gold Star Parents.

Muldoon congratulates the Chapter officers for their efforts and only wishes he could attend meetings—but his working hours for the city of New York precludes the possibility of being able to attend in the immediate future.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

Mike Belmonte and His Illinois Memorial Committee Are Busy

By FRANK OZART,
2241 S. Marshall Blvd.
Chicago, Ill. 60623

MEMORIAL SERVICES—

At the March meeting President Mike Belmonte and his committee rolled their sleeves up and started to work on a coming event—which is the Memorial Services. They selected the gravesite of Pfc. James V. Petorella, 47th Inf., Ninth Division, who was killed in action on August 10, 1944.

Memorial Services will be held on May 30 1967 at the Mount Carmel Cemetery, Wolf Road and Roosevelt Road, Hillside, Ill., at the grave of Pfc. James V. Petorella, Grove No. 266, Block A, Section 21. Time: 10:30 A.M. Date: May 30th, 1967.

The group will meet at the Roosevelt Road entrance at 10:30 A.M. It is fifty yards west of Wolf Road.

After the Memorial Services there will be food and refreshments served.

BASKET PICNIC

The annual picnic will be held in the Starved Rock Area in Illinois. The exact location is not known at this time because of the inclement weather the committee hasn't traveled very extensively inspecting likely spots. The date has been set for Sunday, June 25, 1967. More information will be published in the next issue.

MEETING NIGHT

Forest Park Moose Lodge, 810 Des Plaines Ave., Forest Park, Ill. Time: 8:30 P.M. every third Friday of the month.

If 1967 dues haven't been paid—a check should be mailed to Bill Hennemuth, Treasurer of Illinois Chapter, 505 N. Wille St., Mount Prospect, Ill.

JIM GADDESS WANTS BIT MORE 39TH DOPE

James A. Gaddess, a former Co. G, 39th man, writes from Henry's Bend Star Route, Oil City, Penn. Highlights of the letter reads as follows:

Dear Dan: Just a note to send '67 dues and to extend to you and all the others my appreciation for your efforts and time you have given in keeping the association going.

HELPS BUCKEYES OUT

As there isn't any Chapter in our immediate locality, please give credit to the Ohio Chapter. This includes my wife's Auxiliary membership.

As a former member of Co. G, 39th Regt. replacement at El Guettar to Germany. I wonder why there isn't more in the Octofoil concerning the 39th.

I am going to try and make the Convention this year.

Would you possibly have the name of any officer of the former Pittsburgh Chapter so that I can contact him and see if we can't get something going for our district.

Now that the 9th is in the thick of things, I sincerely hope that they will get their share of the Public Eye. Remember how it was with us?

Best to all—James A. Gaddess.
P.S.: Clarence "Buck" Miller sends best to all buddies of 3d Bn., 39th.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-WI—

Buckeye Heads For the Boston Reunion

Dominick Greco, a former 60th F.A. man, now living in Tiltonville, Ohio, doesn't have much to say—but to the point like this: "Here's my dues. See you in Boston."

Army Only 23 Years Late With the Medal

The Scripps-Howard newspapers have a second section feature page, and print in each issue a person the paper chooses to designate Scripps-Howard Featurette.

This space was devoted in a recent issue to printing the picture of a former 9th Division man—holding in his hands a Bronze Star Medal. Not anything odd about that—not much. This Bronze Star had been 23 years reaching the man it was supposed to be awarded to.

This ex-G.I. happened to be Dick Pestel, 1422 Dyer Rd., Grove City, Ohio, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Chapter. The feature story gave Pestel's GI history. A few days after publication of delayed-action Bronze Star medal delivery, Pestel's Congressman had his publicity director to get in on the play and offer congratulations. The story mentioned Pestel was 49 years old and retired. The Congressman commented "You are not really retired at 49." The Congressman doesn't seem to realize those German 88s had no respect for youth or age and they retired many permanently before they were 21 years old.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

BATMAN'S BUDDY

An elderly Catholic Sister was having difficulty making her way across a busy intersection when a young boy came to her assistance. After crossing safely, the Sister thanked him and he replied, "That's okay, any friend of Batman is a friend of mine."—Catholic Digest.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-WI—

Tact is the art of winning an argument without making an enemy.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASS'N. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, Natl. Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.,
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J.

Enclosed please find 1967 dues for:

Name _____ Serial No. _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

I was a member of:

Battery _____; Company _____; Regiment _____ 9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year _____ \$ 4.00 ☐

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund _____ ☐

Three-Year Member _____ \$11.00 ☐

LIFE MEMBERSHIP _____ \$50.00 ☐

Octofoil Automobile License Disc _____ \$.50 ☐

Decals 25c; (5) five for _____ \$ 1.00 ☐

"Eight Stars to Victory" _____ \$ 2.00 ☐
(Pictorial History of 9th Division in action.)

Ladies' Auxiliary Member _____ \$ 1.50 ☐

Combat Route Map _____ \$.50 ☐

60th Infantry History _____ \$.50 ☐

Coat Lapel Octofoil Pin _____ \$ 1.25 ☐

Please give credit to the following Chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville-Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP in the LADIES' AUXILIARY of the NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Tippie Plunkett, Secretary-Treasurer
Ninth Infantry Division Association Ladies' Auxiliary
286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio 43206

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for \$1.50 for 1967 dues. Please mail my membership card to—

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division my _____
(state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with _____
give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to Secretary-Treasurer Tippie Plunkett, 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio 43206. A 1967 countersigned membership card will be sent immediately.

By order of the President:
MRS. THERESA CUPRYS, President.

Catholic Publisher Likes The Octofoil

Shortly after the last issue of The Octofoil was off the press a wire was received by The Octofoil. It was sent by Mr. Thomas Carroll, editor of the internationally circulated Catholic Order of Forester Magazine—both English and French versions. Mr. Carroll thought the birdseye view of Boston was the best reproduction he had seen in any newspaper or magazine and was anxious to use the photo in the Forester Magazine. Herb Olsen, of the New England chapter furnished The Octofoil necessary information to forward to the Catholic publishers so the proper arrangements for use of the photo could be made.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-WI

To get nowhere, follow the crowd.

"PETER RABBIT" SAYS WOODSIDE HAD "IT"

Charles (Peter Rabbit) Harvey, 7407 Huntridge Ave., Cincinnati, O. 45231, forwarded his 1967 dues in to Secretary Dan Quinn and expressed keen sorrow to learn of the serious illness of former B Co. 60th Jeep driver Bob Woodside. "Peter Rabbit" was a Co. B 60th man also. He remembers how the outfit's company commanders had no fear of Kraut barrages, but they never got over one of those wild rides with Pop Woodside through enemy fire—areas that were mined and other hazards that were all in a day's work with that fearless Jeep driver—especially if he was in an area where he had planted a jug or two of vino earlier in the day.

Al Baccile Gives Breakdown On the June 9 Co. 'B' 39th Reunion in Elmira

Those former 9th Division men who have attended Co. "B" 39th Reunions have experienced thrills that they will never forget. They are at it again—Al "Hawk" DiRissio, Tom Orband, Al Baccile and others—arranging for the next big blowout of Co. B men. This time the big frolic will be held at Elmira, N. Y., at the Mark Twain Hotel on June 9 and 10, 1967.

The following is a brief resume of the shindig. Any information not included in the following breakdown will be furnish to those who contact Albert Baccile, 915 Davis St., Elmira, New York.

DATE—June 9-10, 1967
PLACE—Mark Twain Hotel
CITY—Elmira, New York

Dear Buddies: As you can see, our annual reunion will be held in Elmira, New York, this year. This event has always been a great source of joy and expectation for all who attend. I personally always feel a surge of excitement as this mutual love affair draws near and with each passing year becomes more meaningful.

To you who have never attended, or seen any of your comrades in all

these years, a weekend such as this can be most rewarding.

Facilities have been secured at Elmira's finest hotel, and the Italian-American Veterans Club will be open for our convenience Friday afternoon and evening.

Co-Chairman Al "Hawk" DiRissio is expecting a big turnout this year—so maybe your plans now to attend.

Anyone reading this notice and knows of a member who has not been contacted, please advise him about this reunion. (Our mailing list is not up to date.)

PROGRAM—

Friday, June 9—Registration at the Mark Twain Hotel. Then fun and frolic at the Italian American Veterans Club. (afternoon and evening.)

Saturday, June 10—at the Mark Twain Hotel—Meeting, 2:30 p.m.

Banquet—7:30 p.m. in the New Orleans Room of the hotel.

Dancing—9:00 p.m. till 1:00 a.m. to one of the Southern tiers finest bands.

Let's make it a big weekend and please send your cards as soon as possible.—Your Buddy, Al Baccile, 915 Davis St., Elmira N. Y.

HARRY ORENSTEIN SAYS POTENTIAL IN NEW ENGLAND AREA SHOULD MAKE '67 REUNION THE LARGEST IN ATTENDANCE EVER HELD

By **HARRY ORENSTEIN**,
640 E. 139th St.
Bronx, N.Y. 10454

TO ALL 9TH Q.M.s—

The January-February, 1967 Octofoil has published the details for the 1967 Boston Reunion. It has all the ingredients of an excellent Reunion. Here are some of the highlights to remember:

SHERATON-BOSTON HOTEL
BOSTON, MASS.
Thursday Evening, July 20—Welcoming Party
Friday Evening, July 21—Teen Age Dance 7:30 P.M. to 11 P.M.
Informal Dance 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Saturday, July 22, 10:00 A.M.—Memorial Services
Saturday Evening, July 22—Banquet and Dance
There will be free parking at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel.

Q.M. NOTES:

The 1967 Reunion should have the largest Q.M. representation of any other Reunion. The greatest Q.M. potential is in the Boston and nearby New Haven areas. The writer has seen many Q.M.s at other Reunions and at Father Connors' annual Memorial Services in Worcester, Mass. There will be Q.M. meeting for the first time since the end of World War II. There will be Q.M. present who attend the annual Reunions. The writer has received letters that said they are planning to attend the 1967 Reunion. There was

a good Q.M. turnout at the previous Boston Reunion. Adding up all these factors, the writer always comes to the same logical conclusion. It's going to be the largest Q.M. attendance of any other Reunion.

MANY PARENTS COMING

Many parents will bring their children to the Reunion.

REMINISCING—

When the Q.M. begin to reminisce, they always recall Fort Bragg, Cassablanca, Kasserine Pass, Gafsa, El Guettar, Bizete, Sicily, Winchester, St. Lo, Ingolstadt and other places.

You will hear the Q.M. tell their experiences about the landing at Palermo. The ships were deployed in the bay in the early morning when there was an air raid and the Germans dropped their bombs. You will recall the Q.M. boat rocking as the bombs hit the water. The Navy did an outstanding job fighting the German planes. We landed later in the morning.

Make your plans now to attend the 1967 Boston Reunion. See you at the Reunion.

Best regards to all. Hope you are all well at home.

Sincerely yours

HARRY ORENSTEIN.

The QM Committees' addresses are:
BILL PALADY, 403 29th St., McKeesport, Pa.
Harry Orenstein, 640 E. 139th St., Bronx, N. Y. 10454.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

JESSE DAVIS CHATS WITH GEN. WESTMORELAND

Young Jesse Davis is a happy GI. He had a chat during the past month with his dad's old commanding officer—Gen. William Westmoreland. During the conversation Davis mentioned to the general having visited West Point with his dad and some 34th F.A. buddies of his dad when the general was at the Point. They discussed Father Ed Connors and other 9th Division subjects. The General mentioned to young Davis that since the Ninth Division had moved into Vietnam he was wearing the Octofoil shoulder patch.

General Westmoreland posed for a picture that young Davis made and sent home to his dad who a few years back was Captain Westmoreland's jeep driver.

According to the Fourth Division's "poop sheet" Jesse Davis, Jr. had won soldier of the month in his company and then the Battalion—and from there on was designated an aide to the Fourth Division C.O. for one week. The never to be forgotten conference with the General took place April 9 while Davis was helping run Fourth Division headquarters as the C.O.'s aide.

The proud parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Davis, Sr., live in Hebron, O. Box 84.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!—

The power and speed of new cars help bring places closer together—like this world and the next.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!—

Television commercials are those few brief moments when a man pays attention to his wife and kidneys.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Colclasure's Son Is Wearing the Old Man's 9th Insignia

An old H Co. 60th GI—Wyett H. Colclasure, So. Washington St., Kimmunity, Illinois 62854, Phone 547-3310 under date of Feb. 13, writes in part as follows:

Dear Fellow Alumni: Wonder how many second generation "Old Reliabilities" there are in our ranks?

My son, Wyett H. Colclasure II, is with Headquarters & Headquarters Co., 9th Inf. Div. In addition, he is wearing some of the shoulder patches and a set of captain bars worn by me when with the Ninth during World War II.

It would be interesting to know how many father-son 9th combinations there are among us.

Briefly rundown on yours truly: Retired, disability, 4-19-45; too much pig iron during Tunisian campaign; went to work 1948 as civilian. Proposed retirement this employment 6-27-73. Interested in guns and shooting, modern and antique. Hunt and fish at every excuse.

Any and all old pot-bellied out of shape former Ninth soldiers passing through the Kimmunity, Ill. area are asked to stop long enough to say howdy, if that's all the time they have.—Yours, Wyett.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Short But Sweet—

When sending in 1967 dues James Hart, Jr., 7 Nenogh Drive, Wilmington, Del. Co. K 60th has this to say: "My best to all the good 9th Men and their families."

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

Taking off a turtle-neck sweater is a hair-raising experience.

Woodside Very Ill; But Keeps Up With Ninth In Vietnam

Robert Woodside is still in a VA Hospital; his condition is not all that could be desired. Mrs. Woodside advises that letters from old buddies or former Ninth Division men, even if he doesn't know them seems to do more good than medicine. The address is Robert Woodside, 22-2 So., VA Center, Bay Pines, Fla. 33504.

In Woodside's letter to The Octofoil as of March 15 he sends some clippings from Florida newspapers in which reference is made to activity of the new 9th Division in Vietnam. Bob wants the message conveyed to those lads that the "old men" of World War II 9th fame—are proud of the Vietnam 9th lads—and are praying for them.

Woodside enclosed a letter he received from Robert Mason, 611 Gross St., McKeesport, Pa. 15132. The two Bobs have never met but both have a lot in common—and Mason's letter touched a tender spot in Woodside's makeup. Parts of Mason's letter to Woodside reads:

Buddy, I have known much of hospitalization. My left leg is stiff; I cannot bend it. Many are worse off than me.

Yes, Bob, I joined the 9th Div. (26th F.A. Bn.) on April 9, 1942 at Fort Bragg and was with the same outfit until September 1945. I knew Kasserine Pass; and the first battle I took part in at El Guettar (I was scared to death there.) I was station at Birkadem right after landing in North Africa. I'll always remember the landing at Algiers—and of course the Battle of the Bulge.

WANTS BRAGG PICTURES

For a long time I have been trying to get photos or picture cards of old Fort Bragg. No one seems to have kept any but then that was 25 years ago. In the Octofoil I noted a former 9th man was stationed at Bragg now. I've written him for a few picture post cards. The area will probably not look much like it did when I was there but I have a soft spot for the place.

I shall pray for you Buddy. Keep in touch. It is indeed a pleasure to know you even if only through correspondence but I sure would like to have you for a friend. If there is anything I can do let me know. My wife works for a firm in Pittsburgh so my days here at home are lonely ones. On March 20 I will celebrate a birthday—and my buddy is returning from Vietnam and will be here with his family for dinner. I will be 54—getting old. Always a 9th Buddy—BOB.

A note from Gen. Ed Randle advises The Octofoil he has plans to visit Woodside at the VA Hospital. The general has spent much time writing former 9th men when he learns they are hospitalized. And the therapy has been terrific.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

DON'T RUSH IN EFFORT TO BEAT THE DEADLINE

Ninth Division veterans hurrying to buy homes before their individual deadlines expire are urged not to buy hastily.

Individual deadlines for obtaining a GI home loan are passing daily, with the final date of termination set for July 25, 1967.

Under the formula for individual deadlines, each veteran has ten years from the date of discharge from his last period of active service, plus one year of eligibility for each 90 days of active war-time military duty. In addition, under a new system of computing the total length of entitlement, the extra days in excess of the whole number of 90 day periods can now be considered. In no case, however, will an entitlement be carried beyond the July 25, 1967 deadline.

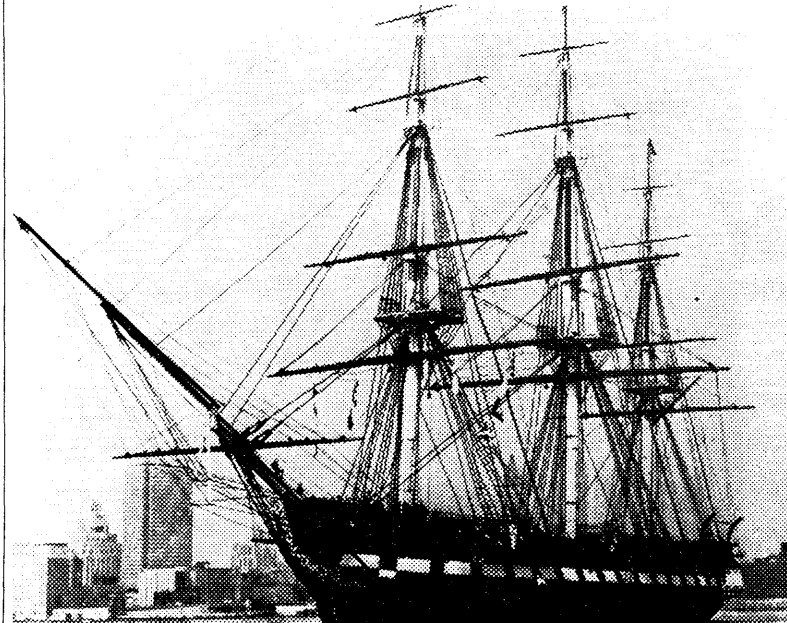
Buying a home is usually the most important financial transaction in the lifetime of the average family. Therefore, a veteran should be certain that he is getting the right house—the one that suits the needs of his family. He should also be aware of the responsibilities that home ownership brings.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!—

Don Bennett Moves to Gov. Kerner's Area

Donald Bennett recently moved from Rhode Island to 322 Stillwell Drive, Buffalo Grove, Illinois. Don was with K Co., 39th Regt. He says he will miss Worcester Mass. on Sundays before the 11th of November and a bunch of swell fellows in the New England Chapter. He would like to contact members of the Illinois Chapter. That Illinois outfit will find him in nothing flat and make him forget about being homesick. They even look up strangers just passing through for a few days and give them the royal treatment.

A Big Day When "Grand Old Lady" Sets Sail



An event of special interest annually is the day when the grand old lady of the seas, the U. S. Frigate Constitution sails down the Boston Harbor. Not only to preserve her association with the sea, but also to keep her weatherin given. She is taken for a short "cruise." Undeafened in battles she remains as the flagship of the first naval district and a reminder of the rugged days of the U. S. Navy.

ELMER WAGNER SPENT MUCH TIME GOING BACK OVER 9TH'S EUROPEAN ROUTES; USED A HERTZ ON THIS TRIP

Under date of Dec. 31, 1966 Elmer R. Wagner, Route 4, Bay City, Mich. 48706 sent the following letter to Secretary Quinn which is self explanatory:

CO. I, 47th

Dear Dan: I was a member of Co. I, 47th Inf. from November, 1944 until May, 1946. Last May and June I spent a wonderful four weeks' vacation in Europe visiting Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. I traveled through these countries in a Hertz rental car. I had no problem making accommodations as I went along. My knowledge of the German language did help.

I retraced my path and the trail of the Ninth Division through Belgium and West Germany, both during the fighting and the occupation days. I've got over 1000 color slides of my vacation trip.

ENCOURAGED

At our Detroit Chapter's Christmas party I was encouraged by the gang present to write you about my trip. I would be happy to supply you with pictures for The Octofoil of places where our 9th Division passed through or was stationed for various periods of time. My pictures include Malmady, Verviers, Eupen, Aachen, Stollberg, Roetgen, Zweifall, Hurtgen, Lammersdorf, Vossenack, Simmerath, Kesternich, Mutzenich, Monschau, Kalterherberg, Hofen, Dreibern, Einruhr, Schmidt, Nidegen Castle, Zulpich, Bonn, Remagen, Erpel, Ohlenburg, Erl, Oettelschoss, Lorscheid, Neustadt, Marburg, Berleburg, Winterberg, Begge, Meschede, etc. plus many other towns

in between too numerous to mention.

SOUTH BAVARIA PIXS

I also have many beautiful pictures of towns occupied by the 9th in Southern Bavaria. I had no difficulty finding my way around in the various towns. However in the area east of Monchau and southeast of Eachen many of the roads between towns have been rerouted. This was in the area of heavy fighting. Quaint old Monchau is still as beautiful as ever, nestled in its narrow gorge-like setting with the Ruhr River running right through the town. It's still a tourist town. I looked around the Monchau, Kalterberg, Hofen area but I couldn't find any more thatched roof houses and barns which were quite common in the Belgian-German border area of the Ardennes when we were there while still in service.

I would be happy to write a serialized account of my vacation trip for inclusion in future editions of The Octofoil.

Possibly one of these years our Association could get together with a travel agency and promote a three or four-week flying tour of Western Europe. I believe there would be a lot of interest in such a trip.

Sincerely,

ELMER R. WAGNER.

Rt. 4, Bay City, Mich. 48706

Editor's Note: The Octofoil editor will contact Comrade Wagner and hold in abeyance any concrete understanding about space in future issues until it can be discussed with the Newspaper Committee at the Boston Convention.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

BOB MASON ENJOYS READING OCTOFOIL

Robert Mason is a disabled former 26th F.A. man, living at 611 Gross St., McKeesport, Pa. 15132—and although not able to get out and kick up his heels like many members—he's doing more worthwhile good than are many who are not handicapped. Bob Mason watches the Octofoil columns and jots down names and addresses of other disabled former Ninth men and although disabled himself, writes cheerful notes to these other fellows. His letters have helped bolster the morale of many former Ninth men who are now bedfast.

In a recent letter to Secretary Dan Quinn, Bob Mason writes in part as follows:

LOVES THE OCTOFOIL

Dear Buddy Dan: Enclosed is \$4 for a year's dues. I do love reading The Octofoil and reading of events, both past and present—for the Ninth is truly a great Division and one I am very proud of. Would like to attend a Reunion but this year the city of Boston is a little too far for me to travel. I have a stiff left leg and cannot bend the knee due to three operations after I had my leg fractured at the knee. Was in VA Hospital in Pittsburgh over a year. I would like to see a Reunion in Pittsburgh so I could attend as it is just 15 miles from here. Best of luck to all former 9th Men.—Robert Mason, 26th F.A.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!—

The easier way to stay awake during an after-dinner speech is to deliver it.

Tony Brianyk Has Been Ill For a Year

Mrs. Marian L. Brianyk sent in her dues for the Women's Auxiliary. In her letter to Tippi, Marian writes: "I don't know what the dues are yearly but whatever they are enclosed is check for \$6—give me \$6 worth."

The Bryanyks live at 36 Pine Ave., West Long Branch, N. J. In her letter she conveyed the following sad news:

My husband, Tony, has been quite ill for over a year. Had a heart attack and won't be able to work any more. We miss going to the 9th Infantry Division affairs, but Tony can't drive too far or climb stairs. We hope and pray his condition will improve. He has a very difficult time breathing, and there is nothing anyone can do about it. No operation: must stay on pills for rest of his life. He is taking it well for which we are all very happy. Tippi, will you stop by and see us some time when in this area. Give my love to all the members of the Auxiliary—and Tony sends his to members of his beloved Ninth Infantry.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

In 1832, when Abraham Lincoln was the newly commissioned captain of the Bucktail Rangers, his troop, marching in platoons, was confronted with a gate that was tightly locked. Captain Lincoln had no idea of the proper order under such circumstances, but his wit did not desert him: "The company is dismissed for two minutes," he ordered. "Then it will fall in on the other side of the fence."

Young Franklin Likes It



GARY C. FRANKLIN

Gary is the fine looking son of Charles H. Franklin, 5741 Flamingo Way, Hialeah, Florida. "Chuck," a former Ninth man, is a civilian employe at the base Gary is stationed and gets to see his young soldier son almost every day. The lad is attached to an Artillery Group at Homestead Air Force Base, Fla., near enough for "Mom" to do some checking when she thinks it is necessary.

ORBAND VISITS THE OLD NORTH CAROLINA SPOTS

Tom Orband always "gets his man." His business takes him to all parts of the country and wherever he hangs his hat up for a night's sleep he seems to be able to ferret out a former 9th Division man and convinces the guy he should either join the Association or pay back dues. Tom's home is in Binghamton, N.Y. He recently stopped off at Fayetteville after a trip to Florida. Naturally he visited Walter Sloven, and then contacted Fred Nichols, another former 9th man.

These contacts and collections are such frequent occasions when Tom Orband is on the prowl that the guys don't consider the incidents news—it's just the way of life with Tom Orband, a great guy—a loyal 39th man.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

MYSYK GALLAVANTING AROUND IN CALIFORNIA

"The Mad Russian," Mike Mysyk, 12604 Darlington Avenue, Garfield Heights, Ohio 44126 has been laying a little low since that bad auto accident he went through. But that's something of the past in the Mad Russian's life—he's on the go again. Most of his going is in behalf of the labor union that he represents in the Greater Cleveland area.

Mike and Angie are planning on not letting anything humanly possible interfere with their plans to see their scores of old friends at the Reunion in Boston—in that brand-new 1967 Buick he is cruising around in.

Angie got hooked for jury duty and it stretched out for six weeks. Mike had to go back to C rations until Angie got released. He's against jury duty for women—at least for wives.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

HAROLD RISSUE IS IN—THEN HE'S OUT

Harold Rissue, M Co., 60th, 363 S. 3rd Ave., Park Falls, Wis. writes as follows:

"I have been in and out of the hospital since last April and just returned home after a 2-month visit there for major surgery. While there I met two former 60th men 3rd Bn.: Charles Beauprey of Neopit, Wisc., former I Co. man. Members would remember him as "Chief," he also was a patient there.

Ben Thielity, former 3rd Bn. motor pool driver of Baraboo, Wis., heard that I was in the hospital and he and his family visited a couple of times.

I have to go back again April 3, at which time I hope the doctors will give me an O.K. so I can return back to work, probably not in my old capacity but doing something else. I haven't worked since the accident which was on Dec. 6, 1965.

I don't know if I will be able to make Boston or not but am sure going to try.

Have been keeping track of the 9th's progress in Vietnam via the TV news. My prayers to all the men over there as those who had to stay behind prayed for us some 20 years ago.

Sincerely,

HAROLD RISSUE.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

WOODY NORMAN STARTS OFF RIGHT

Woodrow W. Norman, Rt. 3, Box 172B, Elkview, W. Va., got off to a good start in 1967. One of the first things he did was sent in for a Life Membership in the Association.

Woody was with Div. Hqtrs. and Transportation.

Norman mentions two old buddies who have looked him up and paid a greatly appreciated visit. One was William Toland 1424 New York Rd., Oceanville, N. J., and the other was Stuart Sugg, 801 W. 6th St., Ayden, North Carolina.

The Suggs made a repeat visit. The Norman clan in turn moved in on the Sugg's family for a short spell—and all parties concerned had a wonderful time.

Mr. and Mrs. Sugg have a youngster, Mike, in the Armed Forces—and at FORT BRAGG, just three barracks over from dad's old flop house. The Suggs also have a lovely 16-year-old daughter, Deblia.

Woody and Mrs. Norman have two fine youngsters—Charles and Martha.

Among some of the Christmas cards reaching the Norman home were from Capt. Roger Schaeffer, Carl Cook and C. E. Combs. Notes were also received from Louis Connors, in Maryland, and Norton Pixton in Utah. Pixton has six children; a son is a missionary in Canada.

Woody sends greetings to all the old gang and would like to hear from any of them.

(Editor's Note: The Octofoil editor was watching a parade in Akron, O. recently and spotted Rog Schaeffer leading a high school band in the parade. He is a high school music instructor and band leader with the Akron Board of Education.)

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

OHIO BOYS SENT OUT FOLLOW-UP NOTICES

Paul Keller president of the Ohio Chapter, and Dick Pestel, secretary, noted quite a few Octofoils were addressed to former 9th men in Ohio in red ink when the last issue of The Octofoil was printed. They got busy and had some cards printed and addressed them to the members whose paper was addressed in red. Some have called and promised to attend to the matter very soon. Some have sent their dues direct to Secretary Quinn. That's about all they can do to help the National Secretary. The lawmakers in Ohio have written up some kind of law that would impose a penalty on them if they visited the offenders' homes with firing pieces and make 'em divy up with their 1967 dues.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

CHUCK TEED COMES BACK TO THE GANG

Charles Teed, a former L Co. 47th man was front page copy a few years ago after being singled out by a nationally known magazine for an ex.G.I. to retract some steps he took while with the Ninth Division. After the magazine articles were printed Chuck was a guest at the Reunion that year. He is still living in Effingham, Ill., 505 W. Kentucky Avenue. Secretary Quinn is in receipt of a short note from Teed that was dated Jan. 5, parts of which read:

Dear Dan: Just a line to say hello and turn in my dues. Hope the world has been treating you and all the old gang okay. I haven't been able to attend a Reunion for a few years but am hopeful of being able to attend another one pretty soon. Regards to all former 9th men and especially old buddies from L Co., 47th—Sincerely, Chuck Teed.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

AL LEE RECOVERING FROM TICKER SKIPS

Al Lee's good wife Grace, keeps The Octofoil informed about Al's health and behavior. He had a heart attack on January 28, 1966 and just returned to work last August. He's feeling fit as a fiddle and is a bit careful and watching out that he doesn't overdo things just because he feels like kicking up his heels.

Al and Grace Lee live at 1874 Fir St., Salem, Oregon. Both enjoy reading The Octofoil, especially when a lot of Al's old 47th buddies get the lead out of their pants and send in some news notes.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

Montalchi Celebrated Wedding Anniversary

Joseph Montalchi celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary just about the time the last issue of The Octofoil was being mailed. His daughter tipped Secretary Quinn off about the event. Joe is an old 39th Inf. man. The Octofoil extends congratulations to he and Mrs. Montalchi. The couple live at 1408 90th St., No. Bergen, N. J.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

Fazio Submits Directions For April 22 Mass

Frank Fazio, Chairman of the New York Chapter Committee in co-operation with Monsignor DeLaura's April 22 Memorial April 22 Memorial Mass, recently sent a very comprehensive letter to members of the Chapter that will prove most helpful to those members attending the Mass. The letter is self explanatory and reads as follows:

Dear Fellow Member:

Last year during the Memorial Service at Pinelawn National Cemetery Monsignor DeLaura, beloved Chaplain of the 47th Inf., praised the Chapter for the efforts it has made to honor the men who fell in battle while serving with the Ninth Infantry Division, and he expressed the hope that these efforts would be carried on for many years to come.

Recently several members of the Chapter have been in contact with Monsignor DeLaura and they have made arrangements to have a Memorial Mass said for the departed members of the Division. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Rocco's Church, Glen Cove, N. Y. at 11:30 A.M. on April 22, 1967. All former members of the Division and their

families are cordially invited to attend the Mass. This Mass is being said for men of all faiths and we hope that it will be attended by men of all faiths. After the Mass a buffet luncheon will be served in the Church Hall. If you know of any former Ninth Division man who is not on our mailing list, please contact him and tell him about the Memorial Mass.

EASY TO REACH
St. Rocco's Church can be reached by taking the Long Island Expressway to Exit 39 N., after leaving the Expressway make a right turn into Glen Cove Rd., continue along Glen Cove Rd. until you reach First St., make a right turn into First St., and proceed along First St. until you reach St. Rocco's Rd., make a right turn into St. Rocco's Rd. and proceed one block to the Church.

For further information pertaining to the Memorial Mass contact

Frank Fazio, 820 Mace Ave., Bronx, N.Y. Telephone TU 2-5605.—Sincerely, Frank Fazio, Chairman.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

VERN BELL REMEMBERS 9TH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bell get their mail on R.F.D. No. 1, Presque Isle, Maine. Vern is a former 15th Engr.

Mrs. Bell sent for another copy of "Eight Stars to Victory" because someone who borrowed their copy just plum forgot to bring it back. And while contacting the National Headquarters a check was made out for \$10 to help out the Scholarship Fund.

Mrs. Bell writes in part: "Although the amount I am sending for the Scholarship Fund is a small amount, it will help and those scholarships help more than anyone can imagine unless someone close has been helped by a scholarship. We know how much they help because our daughter, Donna, who is a Senior at Westbrook Junior College, Portland, Maine has earned a full tuition scholarship for each year.

In behalf of the youngsters The Octofoil extends thanks to you—Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bell.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

Sgt. Hynes Spends Time In Hospital

Sgt. John P. Hynes, E Co. 47th, is one of those many unfortunate 47th men who were taken POW at El Guettar during the African campaign. The sarge has been in Kingsbridge VA Hospital for nearly four months suffering from the effects of that POW experience. He has a new Bronx address, which is:

Sgt. John P. Hynes, 614 Logan Avenue, Bronx, N. Y. 10465
Care Muldowney

John's sister, Helen Muldowney, passed away recently, leaving a 22-year-old son and a 6-year-old daughter.

The old Sarge would be glad to hear from some of his old buddies.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

TIME EXTENDED TO FILE FOR DEATH GRATUITY

Eligible survivors of veterans who died on or after January 31, 1957 and before September 29, 1965 have been given an extended time (to November 2, 1967) to make application for death gratuity benefit.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

A schmuck is a guy who leaves the shower to answer the call of nature.

BURIAL POLICY FOR ARLINGTON HAS BEEN RADICALLY CHANGED

Secretary Dan Quinn is in receipt of a lengthy communique from the Department of the Army, signed by Col. Francis T. Devlin, Chief, Community Relations Division. The letter is dated February 19, 1967, and is as follows:

New criteria which will reduce the number of people eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery were ordered today by the Department of the Army. The change, which will apply to persons dying after February 17, 1967, will prevent a two-year interruption in Arlington burials which would begin early in 1968 if the current rate of interments were to continue. The Army is also providing additional burial spaces at the Beverly (New Jersey), Fort Rosecrans and Golden Gate (California), Camp Nelson (Kentucky), and Fort Harrison (Virginia) National Cemeteries.

LIMITED

Under the new criteria, burials at Arlington National Cemetery will be limited to Medal of Honor Winners, active duty and retired members of the Armed Forces and honorably discharged veterans who have also served in high positions in the Federal Government. Wives and minor children of the foregoing are also eligible. The change does not affect previous commitments to eligible survivors of those already buried in Arlington, nor is it applicable to the other 67 active National Cemeteries.

Under the former criteria any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or any citizen of the United States who served in the Armed Forces of any government allied with the United States during a war, whose last active duty terminated honorably, was eligible for burial at Arlington. Also eligible were the wives, husbands and minor children of the foregoing.

VIETNAM NOT A FACTOR

Consistently over the last 10 years about 70 percent of the burials at Arlington have been veterans and their wives, most of them residents of the Washington area. There are nine other national cemeteries in Virginia and two in Maryland with available gravesites. The conflict in Vietnam has not been a major factor in the increasing number of burials

at Arlington, accounting for only 290 burials in 1966.

The annual rate of interments at Arlington has increased from 4,578 in 1962 to more than 7,000. On February 10, 1967, there were only 6,437 available gravesites remaining. Under the revised criteria about 2,000 gravesites will be needed each of the next three years. The Army is in the process of implementing a long planned expansion of the cemetery on the grounds of the South Post of Fort Myer. This expansion will ultimately provide about 60,000 more gravesites, but the first of these will not become available for burials until December, 1969. The revised burial criteria in concert with the expansion program will thus allow uninterrupted operation at Arlington during the period needed to complete the expansion and for many years to come.

INACTIVE IN 1967

Uncommitted gravesites at Beverly National Cemetery (New Jersey) and Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery (California), were exhausted during 1966 and those facilities became inactive. Golden Gate National Cemetery (California), Camp Nelson National Cemetery (Kentucky) and Fort Harrison National Cemetery (Virginia) are expected to become inactive in 1967. The closure of Beverly and Fort Rosecrans made it impossible to provide gravesites at these cemeteries on application of next of kin in behalf of Armed Forces members killed during the Vietnam conflict. If the conflict continues, the same problem might arise in 1967 at Golden Gate, Camp Nelson and Fort Harrison.

The Department of the Army will acquire small parcels of additional land for gravesite development at these five cemeteries. If at all possible, land contiguous with existing boundaries will be obtained. Failing that, the sites selected will be located in the immediate vicinity and will be operated as annexes of these National Cemeteries.

Newly acquired property will be converted to gravesite use as quickly as possible. Periods ranging from 8 months to a year may be necessary to complete this conversion.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

DR. KAUFMAN SAYS WRITE...SOUND OFF

Dr. A. S. Kaufman, M.D., 4546 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 40, Pa., a former Lieutenant Colonel Hq. Med. Bn., has this to say:

Dear Dan: I am enclosing my dues. I wish to take this opportunity to invite all former members of the Ninth Medical Battalion to write to The Octofoil about themselves. The 9th Medical Battalion served the Division with great distinction throughout its entire history and in all its campaigns. Among its enlisted men and officers were soldiers of high devotion to duty and service to the sick and wounded of the fighting units.

Having served with Medical Battalion from September, 1940 to June, 1945 and having had the great honor of being its commanding officer from 1943 to 1945, I have always been proud of the enthusiasm and esprit d'corps of all our men. The Ninth Medical Battalions was as great, as our Division was the greatest.

I would welcome hearing of my old friends through The Octofoil.—Sincerely, A. S. Kaufman, M.D.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

Hold the Fort—Pizza Orders Coming Up!

Fort Riley, Kans.—Thanks to their mess steward, men of Battery B, 1st Battalion, 11th Artillery 9th Infantry Division—now in Vietnam—will soon be picking up pizza in the "chow" line.

In an effort to get "something special" for his troops, Staff Sergeant Francis J. Rosebush wrote to the Post Services Commissary officer at Fort Riley, former home of the 11th Artillery.

Staff Sergeant Rosebush asked for pizza mix, cheese, spices and peppers and sent a personal check to cover cost. The check was returned to the sergeant.

The interest of the administrative and supervisory personnel in the Post Commissary was sparked by the letter. They contributed funds to procure three cases of pizza mix which are now on the way to SSG Rosebush and men of Battery B.

Commissary personnel also contributed enough funds to buy a case of hot peppers and the necessary spices and cheese.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

Daszczynski Active In Florida Veteran Circles

Mrs. Henry Daszczynski writes from 6535 SW 31st St., Miami, Fla. 33155, and gives some interesting information about the old 60th Inf. and Hqtr. man.

Parts of the letter reads:

Henry is very active in veterans' affairs such as the Polish Legion of American Veterans. He was Commander for three years and has held other offices for nine years or more. Henry is also active with Post 5718, Veterans of Foreign Wars in Coral Gables, Fla. He has always had a desire to attend one of the 9th's Reunions, but first on thing and then another has prevented him from attending. He is hoping nothing will happen that will prevent him attending this year.

Mrs. Daszczynski advises that Henry just learned that a Comrade by the name of Zimmer, a former 9th man, was in Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, and has been visiting him and asks that if there are other former Ninth men near the address given above to stop in some time for a chat and if too far for that—at least drop a card in the mail box.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-W!—

Hon. Ed B. Bailey, Mayor of Demopolis, Ala. Wants Former Buddies Stop In

Just ever so often His Honor, Mayor Ed Bailey, Demopolis, Ala. has a lonesome feeling for some word from any of the old 39th outfit. Ed was with E, F, G and K Companies, first as Lt. Bailey, then as Capt. Bailey. His mail address in Demopolis is P.O. Box 577.

The Octofoil editor was recently on a highway driving from Dallas, Texas, to Columbus, Ga., and noted he was bypassing Demopolis by a few miles. From the business district bypass, the city looked like a hustling and enterprising little community just chuck full of honest-to-God good people. Anyone going on that highway don't make the editor's mistake and keep going—slow down, stop by and see the Mayor. It's better than an even bet anyone who does will always be glad they did.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-W!

WANTED: Used secretary in good condition.

APRIL MEETING IN NEW YORK CITY WAS LARGELY ATTENDED

By ARTHUR RICHARD SCHMIDT,
69-20 69th Street,
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11227

The April New York Chapter meeting was held at the Statler Hilton Hotel, 33d St. and 7th Ave., on April 7, at 8 P.M. The meeting was in honor of the Chapter's Past Presidents. Chapter President Ralph Witzkin thanked the following past presidents for attending and for their services to the Chapter and Association: Calvin Polivy (1949), Daniel Quinn (1956), Irving Feinberg (1957), Arthur R. Schmidt (1958), Vincent Guglielmino (1959), Max Umansky (1960), Walter O'Keefe (1963), John Rizzo (1964), Frank Fazio (1965), Emil P. Langer (1966).

APAR OPENS WITH REMARKS

The president called on George Apar for the opening prayer. Apar offered the prayer but in lieu of the customary moment of silence he remarked on the untimely passing away of Life Member Albert Lechmanik and Chapter Chaplain.

MINUTES READ

Chapter Secretary Dominick Miele read the minutes of last meeting. They were approved as read. Chapter Treasurer Irving Feinberg gave his report. After analyzing the report the membership concluded the treasury was solvent. The report was accepted as read. Anthony Varone, Chairman of Welfare Committee, advised he had no report at this time.

President Witzkin thanked the members for turning out so well for the Al Lechmanik funeral services.

Dave Gelman, one of the Welfare Area men, asked whether lists of the names and addresses and telephone numbers of members in the various areas could be provided to the Welfare Committee Area men assigned to these areas.

SIMPLE EULOGY

Natl. Secy. Dan Quinn suggested we develop a simple eulogy of our own for use at funerals of our departed members. Apar, Langer, and Fazio also spoke on the subject. A motion was made by John Rizzo that the president appoint a committee to develop a service format—the committee to consist of a member of each religious faith. Motion carried. President Witzkin appointed the following: Dave Gelman (Jewish), Emil Langer (Protestant), and John Rizzo (Catholic).

FAZIO'S REPORT

Frank Fazio gave a report on Father DeLaura's Memorial Mass for the 9th Infantry Division dead.

(Printed in this issue of The Octofoil is a letter from Chairman Fazio concerning the April 22 Mass in which Fazio gives all the details.)

PICNIC PERMISSION

President Witzkin reported that he had been officially notified that permission had been granted the Chapter to hold its picnic at Roosevelt Park, near Menlo Park, New Jersey on June 11, 1967 in sections 1 and 1A. The park has modern restroom facilities.

FALL DANCE

Fazio reported he had found a fine spot to have the fall dance. He reported that Local Chapter 65 at Astor Place and 8th St., New York City was offering a good deal at reasonable prices. Due to other commitments by Local Chapter 65 the 9th Division group had to change the dance date to Oct. 7, 1967. This date will not interfere with the Jewish holidays. Among other things there will be a hot Smorgasbord. A chef will be carving roast beef, corned beef and pastrami all night. There will be a good band. There is a free cocktail party. Bargains on liquor prices and free beer. The price for two people will be approximately \$15 Chm. Fazio advises that the hall is near all public transportation. A motion was made to authorize Fazio to consummate the deal. The motion prevailed. President Witzkin thanked Fazio for his diligent efforts in securing a good deal for the fall dance.

REUNION REPORT

Emil Langer gave a report on the progress of the Reunion in Boston in July, 1967. He attended a meeting of the New England Chapter at Father Connors Coffee Shoppe. The Reunion will be discussed at the National Board of Governors meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., April 29. He said a large program of entertainment was being planned. He urged members to get their hotel reservations in early. Langer reported all members of the New England Chapter are working hard to make the Reunion a success.

MR. MAC WINS

Al Orletti, Chapter Sergeant At Arms, made the collection for the dark horse prize. Mr. McInerney, the Chapter's own Gold Star Father, won the dark horse prize, a salad bowl set.

It was nice talking with Leon Roberts again. He was with Hqtrs. Co., 47th, and retired from the Army in 1963. He lives at 19 Elm St., Den-ville, New Jersey.

LARGE MEETING

The April meeting was probably the largest in attendance the Chapter has held. A token of respect for our departed Chaplain was one of the reasons for the large attendance.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

GEN. REESE M. HOWELL IS CALLED BY DEATH

Dick O'Connor, Whittier, Calif., has forwarded to The Octofoil a clipping he extracted from a California newspaper that reported the death of Brig. Gen. Reese M. Howell.

Parts of the clipping read:

Private funeral services for retired Brig. Gen. Reese M. Howell, 77, were held at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

General Howell died at his home, 1134 Sierra Alta Way. He served in the army after his graduation from West Point in 1915 and until his retirement in 1946.

He was promoted to brigadier general during the North African artillery campaign and received many American and foreign awards—including the Silver Star and Bronze Star.

In 1951 he became active in civil defense work. He worked with civil defense planning for 10 years in Beverly Hills.

He leaves his widow, May, of the home address.

The Octofoil joins with Gen. Howell's old friends and buddies and extends to Mrs. Howell sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this hour of her greatest grief.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

FOLLWEILER SENDS IN TIMELY TOPICS

Richard Follweiler, a former Co. G, 39th man writes from 830 Kiowa St., Allentown, Pa. 18103.

Dick recently transferred membership from one Legion Post to another. The Post he transferred to is the George W. H. Rothrock Post No. 818—312 E. Hamilton St., Allentown, Pa. Post 818 is named in honor of a Ninth Division man is the reason for Dick's transfer. Sounds like a good reason for transferring. He also met an old Sergeant buddy at the new Post—Sgt. Larry Piechoshi, 206 McClellan St., So. Philadelphia, Pa. Follweiler wants someone in that area to sign the Sarge up right now.

Larry has the home address of other men who were with the 39th. Sounds like a valuable man for the Philadelphia gang to latch on to.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Doesn't Like the "Red Brigade"

George W. Cyphers, 1656 Lockwood Ave., E. Cleveland, O. 44112, a former Co. B, 60th man, doesn't think much of Secretary Quinn putting him on the "red ink brigade" when the last issue of The Octofoil was mailed out. In order that a stop may be put to that practice and right now—he sent a check for 1967 dues.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Note from Gold Star Dad — Mr. McInerney

A note from New York Chapter's beloved Gold Star Dad, Mr. Michael McInerney, is always a welcome sight to The Octofoil.

On March 2 a very nice typical McInerney note reached The Octofoil. There was one slight variation. This very nice note was penned by the very sweet little Gold Star Mother—Mrs. Mc. She advises that Mr. Mc is getting along pretty good and come fair and warm weather he will be up and at 'em again. Mrs. Mc tells of catching some of the New York members on the run in the hotel lobby on their way to the last Chapter meeting and with having had a most enjoyable social session with the McInerneys favorite ex-G.I., Tom Orband of Binghamton, N.Y.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Permanent Purple Heart At Cemeteries

A permanent display of the Purple Heart medal at each of the 22 American World War I and II overseas cemeteries has been authorized by President Johnson.

The medal will be displayed "as a perpetual symbol of the profound gratitude of a bereaved nation for the devotion and sacrifice of the heroes who are commemorated here."

A certificate bearing these words and signed by the President, along with the Purple Heart medal and a brief history of the decoration, will be placed on permanent exhibit in the Visitors' Building at each cemetery.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Mrs. Dillman Takes Care of Gene's Dues

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dillman are living at 8272 N. Wisner, Niles, Ill. 60648. Mrs. Dillman sends dues for two years to get Gene all squared around. "Tis said that no news is good news—Mrs. Dillman didn't include much news in her short letter—so evidently she and Gene are coasting along and everything is well at the Dillman residence.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

"THE OLD RELIABLE" NEWSPAPER, PRINTED IN COMBAT AREA, IS A FEAT NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

A copy of Vol. 1, No. 1 "The Old Reliable" was mailed to The Octofoil, straight from Vietnam's combat area. The Division Sergeant Major I am sure that the Association "I am sure that the Association knows by this time that the first contingent of the Old Reliabilities landed on the shores of South Vietnam in December, 1966.

We have started publishing a Division newspaper called The Old Reliable and thought you might be interested in having copies mailed to you. I am enclosing our initial efforts in copies 1 and 2. Major John F. Maloney, our Information Officer, will have the Association placed on our mailing list. Also, is there a possibility of having copies of the Octofoil mailed to us here in Vietnam? We hope to maintain a close harmonious relationship with the "Old Wearers" of the Octofoil.

Secretary Quinn immediately notified the Sergeant Major that the Association and The Octofoil would be most happy to receive the paper.

And a most interesting sheet it has proven to be. Vol. 1, No. 14 was the latest issue received.

FAR CRY FROM WORLD WAR II

The greatest gripe World War II Ninth Division men had was not getting credit for the hard work they were doing. They were not even allowed (most of the time) to wear an Octofoil shoulder patch. Security reason was the cause, so it was said.

MANY HEROES

The authenticated heroic deeds these fine lads in Vietnam wearing the Octofoil are performing from day to day are too numerous to be reprinted in full here and unfair to extract for printing purposes any particular one. For instance, a story of a noncom falling on top of a live grenade to save his squad. Makes goose pimples come on—and also makes "old" World War II GIs more proud than ever to have worn the Octofoil—and certainly makes every member of the Association proud of this new breed soldier fighting the Vietnam battles.

Old time 9th men who thought North Africa was a part of this world

LEO MATSON DIED ON DECEMBER 24th

Albro Fessenden of 14 Cedar Ave., Jamestown, N. Y., sent a clipping to The Octofoil that contained the sad news that Leo Matson had passed away. The clipping was from a Jamestown newspaper and read in part as follows:

Leo G. Matson, 49, of 12 Sumner Place, Jamestown, died at 10:33 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, 1966 in the Buffalo VA Hospital.

An Army veteran of World War II he served in the 9th Infantry Division in Germany and was in Berlin when occupied by the Allied countries. He was a talented musician, employed by many well-known bands.

He was born in Jamestown Feb. 17, 1917, and was a graduate of Jamestown High School.

He is survived by his mother and three brothers. The Octofoil extends to the heartbroken mother and other grieving relatives sincere condolences.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

O'Connors Head For Real Leisurely Cruise

Members of the New York Chapter remember Richard O'Connor—the friendly Jersey boy who picked up and took off for Sunny California several years ago. Once or twice he come back cross country for a visit. Evidently he has gotten over those periods of homesickness and doesn't visit or write any more. His home address now is 9567 Bluford Ave., Whittier, Calif.

There's no use writing this wandering former 84th F. A. man—for quite a spell after Sept. 1. He and Grace (the fine Mrs. O'Connor) are taking off on a trip through Europe that will take them through England, Belgium, Berlin, France, Italy and Spain.

They musta hit pay dirt in those thar Californny hills.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Rev. Hugh Whitaker Moves to Little Falls

As of Feb. 1, 1967 the Rev. Hugh C. Whitaker had a new address.

Hereafter all mail intended for the Rev. Whitaker should be addressed thusly:

Rev. Hugh C. Whitaker,
97 Church St.,
Little Falls, N.Y. 13365

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

WANTED: Boy to open oysters with references.

God never heard of—would really get sick on the stomach to review, just in pictures, the Vietnam terrain.

The Old Reliable paper isn't filled entirely with dry statistics. It has some comics for diversion—and a coupon that is helpful in mailing copies of the paper back to the home folks. Weekly lists of awards, Purple Hearts, etc. are printed in the paper. Inspirational pictures showing the friendly deeds bestowed upon the natives—especially the children—fill a bit of space.

MEET AGAIN

In the March 4 issue a picture was printed showing a surprise Reunion between Gen. Westmoreland and Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Decker. The Vietnam Sergeant Major was a First Sergeant of C Bty. 34th Field in Fort Bragg from August, 1940 to May, 1942 when Gen. Westmoreland — (a captain then) was battery commander of the unit.

Pictures of the GIs getting their hair cut in or near the field would indicate that no improvement has been made in this department regardless of all the high-sounding changes made in other departments of a U. S. Fighting Army.

Many pictures show these lads trying to walk a tight rope over treacherous streams of water—where, if one slip is made the soldier falls on hundreds of poisoned darts placed in the water by the vicious VCs.

The Commonwealth of Kansas announced that the state had adopted the Ninth Infantry Division as their own. The young GIs in turn are planting Kansas sunflowers all over Vietnam.

The Old Reliable is not a gazette filled with bragging in reporting on the fine work being done by the Division. It is just a chronological listing of achievements and proper, undramatized credit given where credit is due.—That in itself make the narratives all absorbing—no dramatization is necessary.

Those lads are deserving of any and everything people on this side of the world can do to show love and devotion to and for them.

Law Amended to Help Handicapped

Pennsylvania is the latest state to amend its motor vehicle code to provide special license plates and parking privileges to certain disabled veterans and handicapped persons, according to Pasquale B. Gervace, DAV Assistant National Service Director of Employment.

The amendments read, in part: "On the application of any person who has lost the use of a leg or both legs, or an arm or both arms, or any combination thereof, or any person who is blind, the department shall issue such handicapped person special registration plates designating the vehicle so licensed as belonging to a handicapped person.

"The department shall not charge any fee other than the regular fee for annual registration, for the issuance of such registration plates.

"A further exception shall be made when a person operating a motor vehicle bearing plates issued to a handicapped person as prescribed and which motor vehicle is being operated by or for the benefit of such handicapped person shall be relieved of any liability with respect to parking for a period of 90 minutes in excess of the legal parking period permitted by local authorities . . . except where local ordinances or police regulations prohibit parking on any highway for the purpose of creating a fire lane or where said ordinances or police regulations provide for the accommodation of heavy traffic during morning, afternoon or evening hours or where such motor vehicle is parked in such a manner as to clearly be a traffic hazard."

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Ed Machowski Writes From "Windy City"

Ed W. Machowski, Illinois Chapter, has the following mailing address: 5931 N. West Circle, Chicago, Ill. Ed was with 9th Med Bn. and Med. Det., 47th. He writes Secretary Quinn that all the family is well and happy—that's his main concern.

Ed recently severed connections with the company he has been identified with for a long time but is hopeful tentative plans which are in the making elsewhere will materialize at an early date that offer a bit more future security.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

"No, ma'am, you didn't send for a piano tuner, but your neighbors did!"

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Nostalgic Memories of Dear Old Basingstoke



Since some members' nostalgia cravings during recent weeks called for reproductions of Fort Bragg scenes maybe a shot or two from Merrie Olde England will hit the spot with others. The photo above, showing the postoffice and museum in Basingstoke Hauts, England, as of 1947 was furnished Wilton Taylor by Miss Ella Goulden, an employe of the Southerns Railroad in Basingstoke.

On to Pennsylvania, Remembering Illinois

Casimir Pakisz writes from Box 355, Slovan, Pa., and encloses 1967 dues, but requests that credit be given to the Illinois Chapter because Bill Hennemuth, Illinois Chapter Secretary-Treasurer and member of the National Board of Governors is the Ninth man who got Casimir to put his name on the dotted line and become a member of the Association. Casimir is a former 1st Bn. 60th man—so is Hennemuth—and so is The Octofoil editor.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

A father was complaining about all the time kids spend watching TV. "I have a six-year-old," he said, "who knows only one word—Shhh!"

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

The cheapest man is one who saves the charcoal filters from his cigarettes for use in his grill.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

CASEY CAN'T FIND 9TH MEN IN HILLS

A. B. Casey, former 39th man, writes from 715 E. Walnut St., Paris, Tenn. In a letter to Secretary Dan Quinn, dated March 8, he writes:

To my knowledge there is only one other former Ninth man living in this county; there may be some but I do not know of any.

I used to hear from some of my old buddies in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania, but evidently they have moved from their former addresses. Regret that I will not be able to attend the convention this year. I am still hoping to be able to make one some day. But I'd still like to hear from any of the old gang through Uncle Sam's mail bags. The former 39th man is in the auto body repair business in Paris.

—PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI—

Happiness is finding the owner of a lost bikini.

GEN. WESTMORELAND SHOWED HE WAS TOPS WHEN SCOUTING

MAGAZINE'S REPORTER TALKS TO THE FOLKS IN "WESTY'S" OLD HOME TOWN ABOUT WHAT KINDA "KID" HE WAS.

George W. Dohmann, 3479 University Ave., Bronx 68, N. Y., a former 9th Medics, has forwarded to The Octofoil a May, 1966 copy of "Scouting." Several pages are devoted to Gen. William Westmoreland's scouting days, complete with many pictures. It is regrettable that The Octofoil does not have available those pictures showing the young Scout at play who is now the commanding general of our forces in Vietnam, a former Ninth Division man who has had placed on his shoulders the gravest responsibility any American soldier or statesman has had to carry.

Parts of the story as printed in "Scouting" reads as follows:

As told to SAM TRAUGHBER

When 15-year-old Childs Westmoreland left his home at Pacolet, S.C., in 1929 to attend the Boy Scouts Third World Jamboree in England, his mother said she "lived in a state of prayer that my little boy would come back safely."

Thirty-seven years later, a nation follows every movement of her son, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander of all U.S. forces in South Vietnam, and prays that he'll lead their sons to peace and "back safely."

If determination and will-to-do have anything to say about it, the former Eagle Scout of Troop 1 of Spartanburg, S. C., will see the job through. In Time magazine recently, he said "... unless it was beyond my control I have never left any job that I hadn't finished."

"He was determined to win, even when he was a little boy, and if he ever began a job, he finished it," his mother Mrs. James Ripley Westmoreland told me when I visited her in Columbia, S. C. She and the general's only sister, Mrs. N. Heyward Clarkson, Jr., chatted with me for two hours about their famous son and brother.

USE MIDDLE NAME

As I was seated Mrs. Westmoreland beamed as she told me, "Childs phoned me last night from Honolulu where he was meeting with President Johnson. When I told him a man from the Boy Scouts was going to interview Margaret and me today, he said 'Tell him I still use the Scout Code and Commandments every day.'" To the 79-year-old mother, Code and Commandments was a phrase equally as good as "Oath and Law."

I noticed that both Mrs. Westmoreland and her daughter referred to the general by his middle name of Childs rather than the "William" always seen in news reports.

"There were three Williams in my family," the mother explained, and it was simpler to call him by his middle name. When he went to The Citadel in 1931 he was nicknamed "Rip." The following year he entered West Point where he was tagged "Westy"—this has stayed with him.

When he graduated from Spartanburg High School in 1931, a military career was only in the back of of "Westy's" mind. His mother had hoped that he'd become a doctor. He had an uncle and a grandfather who were doctors, and we hoped he would become one, too."

But on his World Jamboree trip, the young Eagle Scout had met some Annapolis men and the navy beckoned him. At The Citadel he made up his mind—the military won out. The following year U. S. Senator James F. Byrnes appointed him to West Point.

"Do you think you'll stay?" his mother asked when he first made plans to enter the Academy.

"You may be assured that if I get there I'm going to stay," he replied. What qualities, besides determination, were evident in this boy who was to become a four-star general?

PHYSICALLY FIT

"He was always a physical fitness man," grade-school friend Ernest White recalled. "His father used to have him run around the park near his home three or four times before breakfast." Ernie, a retired Big League baseball player, ran on a track team with "West" in grade school at Pacolet, 12 miles from Spartanburg.

"Once, when he was having trouble with his arches," Conrad Cleveland of Spartanburg, said, "he hiked 3 or 4 miles every day for several months to strengthen them."

Cleveland, now a retired Army reserve colonel and a vice-president of the South Carolina National Bank, was a fellow Scout and one of Childs's closet friends. It was on the Cleveland farm near Spartanburg that the two Scouts enjoyed horseback riding and hiking. Their troop, did much of their hiking and camping there. Cub Branch was a favorite haunt.

Today, at 52, Gen. Westmoreland starts his day in Saigon with push-ups before breakfast at 6:30. Tennis, too, helps him keep fit. Basketball,

which he played at West Point, and Indian dancing, which interested him as a Scout, are no longer on his list of conditioners; but he probably could still give a good account of himself in a basketball game or cut quite a dido-at-Indian dancing—if he set his mind to it.

LEADERSHIP

His leadership ability became evident at an early age. Troop 1 records show Childs Westmoreland as scribe and later as patrol leader of the Stag Patrol.

He had joined the troop at 12, the earliest possible age at that time and, before the year was out, had become a First Class Scout. "Leadership was the greatest benefit he gained from Scouting," his sister said.

"It started in Scouting," Cleveland concurred.

In his senior year at Spartanburg High School he was voted class president—and the best looking boy," his doting sister added.

At West Point he won the Pershing award for military proficiency and leadership, making him the senior cadet of the corps. In his senior year he became the first captain of cadets.

Mrs. Westmoreland tells the story of the time her son was trying to teach some young Scouts when one of his boys didn't want to obey. "My boy just picked him up and put him in the creek with his clothes on. You'd think he would have resented my boy for that, but instead, he adored him."

Conrad Cleveland tells a slightly modified version: "I was the Scout dumped in the creek and I was mad, madder than—well, a wet hen at the time." But the two have remained lifelong friends.

LOST COMPOSURE

It was Cleveland who was best man at "Westy's" wedding at Fayetteville, N.C., in 1947. With a twinkle in his eyes, Cleveland said that it was the only time he had ever seen his friend lose his composure.

When Lt. Col. Westmoreland with Lt. Col. Cleveland, left his quarters at Fort Bragg to go to the church at Fayetteville, it seems that "someone" had instructed MP's to set up roadblocks on every exit from the post. The police readily passed Col. Cleveland, but were most suspicious of Col. Westmoreland's credentials, questioning him at great length.

Obedience was instilled in the Westmoreland family. "I stressed obedience with my children. If you don't learn to obey, you don't get anywhere in life," Mrs. Westmoreland said, "and I always knew where they were at all times," she added significantly.

The general's sister recalled her father, who died last year, as a just but strict disciplinarian. "Childs always received his fair number of spankings," she reminisced.

Punctuality was learned from his father. "I remember 'Mr. Rip' Westmoreland and his family very well," said Charles Hearon, Jr., a former Scout. "Their pew at the Church of the Advent was near ours. 'Mr. Rip' drove a Franklin and you could set your watch by the time he'd arrive each Sunday. And he'd always park his car within an inch of the same spot."

"West's" thoughtfulness and concern for others are traits remembered by many friends. Mrs. Helen Guess, now retired, was his high school history teacher. She spoke of the letters he wrote her and other teachers following a visit he made to the school several years ago.

Conrad Cleveland treasures a neckerchief slide "Westy" made for him when they were Scouts. When the general was in Spartanburg last year, Cleveland reminded him of it and he described it in detail.

Today, the general's concern for his troops and the welfare of the South Vietnamese people is almost legendary. "He speaks to more troops, personally, than most," an officer told a TV news reporter.

Self reliance and outdoorsmanship were furthered by his Scout camping. "Camping was his favorite hobby as a boy," his sister said emphatically.

His mother recalled how he camped out for 2 or 3 days several miles

(Continued on Next Page)

CHARLES FABRE PASSES AWAY AT THE AGE OF 53

In reporting on the most recent death of former Ninth Division men in Greater New York—Arthur Richard Smith, New York Chapter reporter, put it most aptly when he stated: "It seems as though this is the year for the Grim Reaper to pay his calls on Ninth Infantry Division men."

Schmidt's latest communique contained the sad news that Charles J. Fabre had passed away on April 7, 1967. Fabre was only 53 years of age at the time of his death and was a lieutenant on the New York City Police Department. He was president of the New York Chapter in 1954 and 1955—and while serving as the Chapter President Charles Fabre did much hard work that still reflects his efforts.

While with the 9th Division Fabre was with the 60th F.A.

Among those from the New York Chapter who visited the McManus Funeral Home, 2001 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, to pay their respects were Dave Gelman, Ed Egan, John Rizzo, Harry Orenstein, Adolph Wadalavage, George Frankel, Arthur Schmidt and Art's mother.

The funeral took place on April 12, 1967, starting from the home, 288 Maple St., Brooklyn, at 9 A.M. Mass was said at St. Vincent Ferrer Church, Glenwood and East 37th St., Brooklyn. Burial was at Long Island National Cemetery, Pinelawn, L. I., New York.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and New York Police Department conducted their respective fraternal ritualistic funeral services at the funeral home.

To those left to mourn the passing of Charles Fabre, who has been called by his Maker during the prime of life, The Octofoil offers sincere sympathy in their hour of grief.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

KUPOWSKI AND WIFE WILL BE IN BOSTON

Leonard Kupowski operates the Leonard's Electric Co., 27 N. Gazette St., Dunkirk, N. Y. The last Reunion Leonard and Marilyn were able to attend was at Fort Bragg. He says that seems like an awful long time ago since he had personal contact with any of the old Cannon Co. gang. He is hopeful there will be a big turnout in Boston.

Accompanying Leonard and Marilyn Kupowski to Boston will be two distinguished guests—the children—Lenny and Marie Ellen—3 and 5 respectively.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

A Birthday Surprise For Geo. E. Jamison

George E. Jamison has a birthday on April 23. Mrs. Jamison and the youngsters decided that a year's membership card in the Association carrying a subscription for The Octofoil would be an ideal birthday gift—and that's exactly what George will receive at the Jamison home—628 Hemlock St., Roselle Park, N. J. 07204. Happy birthday, George, not only from Mrs. Jamison and the children—but also The Octofoil.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

NARDONE HAS BEEN A MIGHTY SICK FELLOW

Bennie Nardone, 1845 Bluff Ave., Columbus, Ohio, has been confined to a hospital for several weeks since the last issue of the Octofoil—the Ninth's great Maestro has been bothered during recent years with an aggravated heart condition. Bennie sold his electrical appliance firm and discontinued his musical work and has been operating a small confectionery on Columbus near North Side. He loves to get a card from any of his old buddies. Those in the Columbus area should stop by and see Nardone sometimes. He isn't able to visit around himself because of his inability to drive.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

NEW ENGLANDERS HOLD 2 MEETINGS

On March 10 the New England Chapter held a meeting at Connors Coffee Shop, 253 Grove St., Worcester, Mass., 8:00 p.m. New officers were elected. The Octofoil is waiting for results of the balloting. The 1967 Convention Committees also made reports.

On March 31 a meeting of the Reunion Committees was held in Boston at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. These reports will also be printed when they are received.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

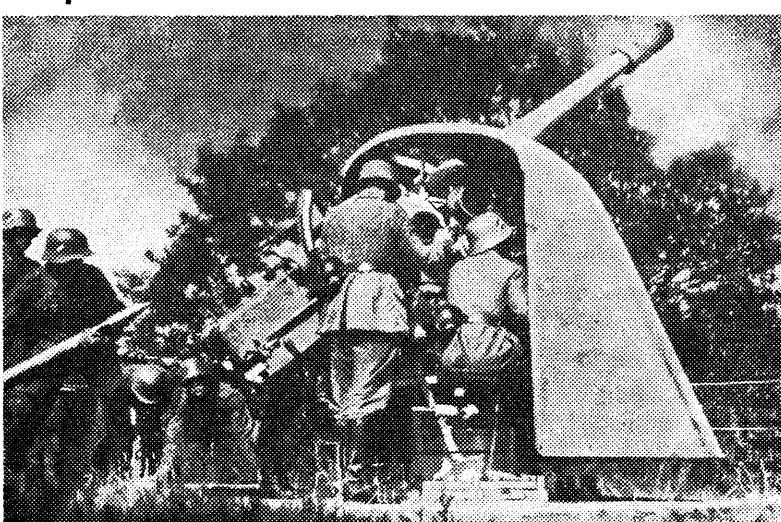
Two small children discussing their bedtime. One of them said to the other, "I have to go to bed at 8 o'clock. My mother is a half hour meaner than yours."

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

Which came first—the ant or the picnic?

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

"Super" Men Before 9th Men Cleaned 'Em Out



The above photo is just one of many, many thousands GIs appropriated from many Kraut drugstores when Hitler's "super" men started running in all directions full speed ahead, trying to escape the wrath of the Ninth Division's "super-super-super" men. The Krauts shown above were typical—they were unbeatable fighters until they began losing—then they forgot their Patron Saint's orders—then they did what Kipling said he did—"I licked 'em—I retreated."

Philosopher from Kennesaw Mountain Foothills Says New York Chapter Has Used Good Judgment In Prexy Choice

The Pony Express just cleared the Kennesaw Mountains in Northern Georgia and "Doc" Paul Walton received his mail from the outside world and some of the information former 9th men in all parts of nation forwarded to the Georgia sage endows him with considerable knowledge about what's happening to many former Ninth men. Mail addressed to Paul "Doc" Walton on Rt. 7, Old Dalton Rd., Rome, Ga., always seems to get delivered in readable form. Some of the news releases Doc allowed released from his Cave headquarters announced that Frank Cenero and Tony Andriali are now Association members, both former 47th Medics. Snuzzle Ash, the Med's champion crap shooter is in Chattanooga, Tenn., after a hernia operation at the Memphis VA Hospital. He's doing okay. Captain Allgood for some reason or another considered old Snuzzle a problem child.

GOOD MAN ELECTED

Quoting Walton verbatim: "I see my old pal, Ralph Witzkin

is now the president of the New York Chapter. He's a very good man and will do a good job for the Chapter."

Walton is pressuring the Georgia Legionnaires to put Octofoils on display in their redecorated club rooms.

Red Wilson writes Walton and apologizes for missing the Reunion in Washington but promises to be in Boston.

Right now Doc is in the process of trying to sell Gen. Ed Randle on the idea of visiting Chocomauga Park, not far from Rome, and writing a series of articles about the great Civil War battle fought in the area.

The second letter The Octofoil received from Doc since the last issue was written immediately after attending a party at the Legion Home. These letters are difficult to make out. Doc claims some of 'em take a drink for the road so they have no pain when getting hit.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

Middle age is when you look forward to a dull evening.

VA STUDIES NEW PROSTHETIC TYPES

Artificial legs are being fitted immediately following amputation in a research study sponsored by the Veterans Administration. The technique is described as a "radical departure from accepted techniques used in this country and around the world."

Results of the Prosthetic Research Study at Seattle, Wash., were reported by Dr. Ernest M. Burgess, principal investigator in the project being carried out by the VA's Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service.

Dr. Burgess, an orthopedic surgeon and head of the amputee clinic of Children's Orthopedic Hospital, Seattle, cited several advantages of immediate post-surgical fittings:

Accelerated wound healing. Early ambulation on the first or second post-operative day.

Early recovery of proper gait and return to work.

Earlier fitting with a permanent prosthesis, usually within the first 39 days after surgery.

The VA project followed reports of the procedure three years ago by Dr. Marian Weiss, Director of the Konstancin Rehabilitation Hospital, Warsaw, Poland.

To evaluate the ideas advanced by Dr. Weiss, the VA undertook the study of amputees of all ages, disabilities and circumstances. Since May, 1964, the study has involved more than 90 patients ranging in age from 2 to 86 years.

Patients with vascular disturbances of diabetic or other origins, infections, traumatized limbs, congenital and circulatory abnormalities have undergone the operation.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

Col. Henry E. Royall Comes Out of Hiding

Col. Henry E. Royall (Ret.) 105 Noble Street, Chapel Hill, N. C., sent his dues to Secretary Quinn and regards to all the gang. There has been many requests about where the Colonel was hiding. Jack Scully and his crew were downright put out when Col. Royall failed to show up at the New York C.P. during some of the Reunions.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

ED BREWER IS STILL ALIVE AND KICKING

An old Co. L, 60th man is hiding out in Shawnee Mission, Kansas—at 4407 West 54th Terrace. He is Ed Brewer and his old 60th buddies are anxious for him to write more to Secretary Quinn than just "Here's my dues."

Ed and family used to attend all the Reunions. He has missed out on a few of those in recent years—that is bad enough but to abstain from writing isn't exactly right. Ed, let The Octofoil have a newsy letter soon for the benefit of your old 60th buddies.

PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI-

Col. Barefoot Takes Out Life Membership

Lt. Col. Forrest Barefoot (Ret.), former 34th F.A. man, writes again from the same old address: 425 S. L St., Lompoc, Calif. Col. Barefoot continues his work as librarian at the Lompoc Federal Correctional Institution. The institution has undergone many major policy changes under new rehabilitation efforts directed by the President. Col. Barefoot says the work there is most interesting.

Tired of forgetting to pay dues into the Association on time Col. Barefoot sent Secretary Quinn a check and ordered him to make out a Life Membership Card thereby eliminating the need for sending alibis to Quinn when receiving one of those polite but pitiful "Please pay" notes.

PAY 1967 DUES N.O.-WI-

Nate Gaynor Trying To Get Caught Up

Nate Gaynor's old D Co. 47th buddies all know that he is one of the spark plugs of the D. C. Chapter in Washington. His home address is 1004 Gobel St., Silver Spring, Md. 20901. Can't get much dope from him though to pass on to the old gang through The Octofoil. He paid his dues to Secretary Quinn and conveyed the following illuminating information:

"Hi—Sorry about being late. Some guys just never get caught up.—Nate Gaynor."

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

Not only is the horse becoming extinct, but so are the people who work like one.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N.O.-WI-

ANXIETY TO GET A COPY OF SECOND EDITION, "SAFI ADVENTURE" CAUSES MORE PRESSURE THAN FIRST EDITION

Since the last issue of The Octofoil a couple of "quickie" letters have been received from Gen. Edwin Randle, 503 Althea Road, Belleair, Clearwater, Fla. 33516. Quoting verbatim from one of the General's letter it read:

"I am trying to do something about the great pile of unanswered letters stacked on my desk. With so many people waiting for a copy of 'Safi' I feel a sense of pressure I did not feel when printing the First Edition. I spend most of my time in the print shop. (And I love it.) But I have neglected writing some fine people."

A little of that pressure is rubbing off on The Octofoil also. For some reason or another many of our members write The Octofoil and want immediate answers as to when Edition No. 2 of "Safi Adventure" will be obtainable.

FLASH—NOV. 8, 1967 IS D-DAY
Just as this issue of The Octofoil was being "put to bed" a letter reached The Octofoil from General Randle in which he writes:

"Publication date for the Second Edition of Safi Adventure is now definitely set—NOVEMBER 8, 1967. That is the 25th anniversary of our landing."

The General keeps just about as busy as he did when in the Service. Never a dull moment.

VISITS SICK

Regardless of how busy he is when Gen. Randle learns of a former 9th Division man being in a nearby hospital he lays everything else aside and visits the man. One of the medicals at a Dayton (O.) VA Hospital reported to The Octofoil about a former 9th man who was a patient there who received a letter from the General. The former Ninth man had been grunting and groaning up a storm all day until that letter arrived and the patient leaped out of bed and visited every bed in the ward to show the other ex-GIs how his old commanding officer still remembered him. Just like working in the print shop and enjoying it Gen. Randle enjoys visiting these disabled men in the hospitals.

HAS VISITORS

Dick Toole and his wife Elizabeth, of Circleville, O., recently visited the Randles' hospitable home and discussed some ancient history pertaining to the 9th Division such as how Toole used wood from mortar shell

cloverleaf crates to make the crosses at the Safi Cemetery.

Other former 47th men visiting in Florida have visited with the General during recent weeks—some members of the Association. Some are not. Those who were not were told how to become affiliated.

9TH IN VIETNAM

Referring to the 9th that is now in Vietnam, Gen. Randle writes:

"As you know the 9th is now in Vietnam and only this morning I read where they had suffered a few casualties from Cong lobbing mortar shells into their camp. I told them when I was at Riley, 'Don't think you can be sporting with those heathens. They don't know what sportsmanship is. They'll knife you in the back every time you turn it toward them. Do like we did the Japanese—kill them all. Take prisoners only when you must'. Does that sound bloodthirsty? Yes. But better their blood than yours."

IN LOVE WITH FLORIDA

If the Florida Chamber of Commerce fails to sign Gen. Randle up they're missing the boat. Unless a person has a lot of will power he can't read one of the general's letters about that land of sunshine without taking off immediately for a rendezvous on some Florida beachhead at once.

CARD FROM SAFI

Recently Gen. Randle received a postal card from a former 47th Cannon Co. lieutenant, Drayton Phillips. The card was postmarked SAFI and showed an excellent picture of the Marhaba Hotel which was 47th Regt. headquarters when Gen. Randle was commanding officer. That card has the general worked up wanting to go back over that route again—and on into France and retrace some routes of World War I.

Phillips writes that he has a copy of "Safi Adventure" with him.

Another former 9th Division man to visit the Randle home during recent weeks was a former lieutenant with the 60th F.A. from Cincinnati, Ohio, ex-Lt. Louis Prince.

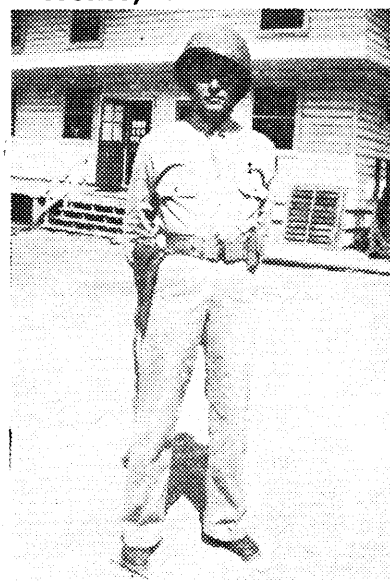
MORE ABOUT THE BOOK

The following is a quotation from one of the General's letters:

"I am on page 121 of the new edition. It will be a much better book, and better printed, with fewer typographical errors. I am exploring an idea of maybe including a signature of pictures."

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

"Home, Sweet Home"



More Fort Bragg atmosphere is pictured above showing Pfc. Louis Novak, Co. H, 47th. Lou was pretty badly shot up and was returned to his home, Rt. 1, Seymour, Texas. The picture was taken in 1942 at Fort Bragg by Wilton Taylor, Co. M, 47th, now Rt. 1, Los Hills, Calif.

Les Ronay Has A New Address

Les Ronay pounded the sidewalks of New York many long hours helping locate former Ninth men and getting them interested in what is now a great organization—the New York Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

A few years later—before seeing the full results of his efforts—Ronay's poor health forced him to remove to Arizona. A notice from the postoffice sent to The Octofoil recently advises that Les Ronay's new address is 18075 Ventura, Encino, Calif. 91316. He had moved to Encino from Canoga Park, Calif.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!
FOR RENT: Nice 2-bedroom home in a shady neighborhood.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

"Terry" Terricola Is Headed For Boston

The Octofoil is glad to hear from an old 84th F.A. Hq. Bty. man who was as well known and well liked by the gang as C. J. "Terry" Terricola, 18 N. Division St., St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Terry advises that he has enjoyed the last two Reunions tremendously. And hopes to enjoy the Boston Reunion even more.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

Carney Johnson Is a Scholarship Supporter

Another Go-Devil lets himself be heard from. This time it is Carney L. Johnson, Jr., down in the Pelican State of Louisiana. Carney is a former G Co. 60th man and lives at 305 Lynx Drive, Arabi, Louisiana 70032.

Carney sent in his dues for three years and added a substantial sum for scholarship fund. If those former 9th men who can afford to and donating to this fund could only have an opportunity to talk personally with the youngsters receiving these scholarships, no one would have any regrets for having donated a little here and there for this worthwhile and deserving cause.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

Friends Grieving the Death of McGonigal

Edward Rhoads 825 Madison St., Coatesville, Pa. 19320, sends The Octofoil the following sad news:

Just received word about the death of Earl McGonigal, formerly of the 39th Regt. He was also an Association member. Earl died suddenly last September. He lived at Parkersburg, Pa., and was employed as a general foreman at Lukens Steel Co., Coatesville, Pa.

The Octofoil extends heartfelt sympathy to those left to mourn the passing of Earl.

Ed Rhoads is an active member of the Philadelphia - Delaware Valley Chapter, and is a former Co. B, 9th Med. Bn. man. Thanks, Ed, for cooperation in news notes sent even if they are sad notes. The members are anxious to learn about such incidents.

COL. ALLGOOD SEES JESS NUNN OFTEN; HAD A PRIVATE REUNION

Secretary Quinn is in receipt of an interesting and newsy letter from Lt. Col. James D. Allgood a former 47th Regt. Bn. Commander. The letter was dated March 2, and reads in part:

"... I was a member of the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 47th. Since I live on the Pacific Coast you can give credit for these dues to the Fayetteville-Fort Bragg Chapter.

Since my last letter in 1959, I have been retired by the Organized Reserves with the rank of Colonel.

VISITS BOSTON

On August 1st, 1963, I was appointed to the Oregon State Board of Accountancy. At the present time I am chairman of that board. Consequently, I attended a meeting of the Association of Certified Public Accountants Examiners in Boston last October. You should be complimented on your choice of the hotel in which you are holding your annual meeting. However, I hope that they have not oversold their rooms as they did last October. When I arrived in Boston last fall I noticed that the New England Chapter of the Association was to have a meeting in the Exeter Room on the night of my arrival. I wandered around the corner in and out of the El Diablo Bar waiting for some members to arrive, but unfortunately none appeared. Two days later I met a CPA from Fayetteville who had served in the 9th Division before joining the Airborne Troops, who knew Herb Clegg. Consequently, we had a reunion of our own.

HAS THREE CHILDREN

When I returned from overseas in 1945 I married Myra Starbuck. We

have three children: Alice, who is 20 and is a Junior at the University of Oregon, majoring in Political Science; Jimmy, who is a Sophomore in high school and is active on the Speech Team and Track; Elizabeth, who is in the eighth grade and is active in everything. Alice gets her interest in politics from her parents, since Myra has been a precinct committee woman for a number of years and I have been treasurer of Senator Mark Hatfield's campaigns as Governor in 1962 and as United States Senator in 1966.

SEES JESS NUNN

Tony (Jess) Nunn who was in the 1st Bn. Headquarters Co., has an office within two blocks of mine and I see him almost every week. Every so often we discuss things that happened overseas in the 9th division.

"SAFI ADVENTURE"

I am anxious to know when "Safi Adventure" will be printed again. I would like to have a copy of that book since I have read articles by General Randle in the Infantry Journal, and I am certain that this book is as well written and as interesting as those articles were.

I am sorry that I will be unable to attend the Boston Reunion, however, I have to attend a meeting in Miami, in early May and will be busy planning a meeting to be held at Portland, Oregon in September. I notice that Lawrence McLaughlin is on the committee for the annual meeting. I know he will do a good job, as he did a good job as one of my company commanders in 1944 in the Huertgen Forest. — Sincerely, James D. Allgood, 819 Birch St., Dallas, Oregon 97338.

Grief-Stricken Mother Writes of Son's Death

Mrs. Florence Thomas, 117 Conner St., New Albany, Ind. writes The Octofoil and conveys the following belated sad information:

My son James E. Thomas, died Sept. 17, 1964.

Mrs. Thomas reports that she is now past 83 years of age and she misses Jim's presence more and more each succeeding day.

Secretary Quinn sent the grieving mother a sympathy card and advised the Association would continue sending The Octofoil if she cared for it in order for her to read something from time to time about many of her son Jim's buddies.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

VA Pension Eligibility Dope Is Available

Unmarried minor children of deceased veterans remain eligible for pension payments even though their mother loses her eligibility by remarriage, the VA reminds.

The same situation occurs when the mother becomes ineligible because her income exceeds the limit for pension eligibility. In these instances, the VA pointed out, payments are stopped to the widow, but continued to her children.

But if the widow fails to apply for pension, knowing that she is not eligible, the VA will have no record of the children who are entitled to receive pension payments.

Unmarried children of deceased veterans are eligible for pension payments until they are 18 years of age, or until they are 21, if they are attending school, provided their own personal incomes do not make them ineligible.

Complete information may be obtained at any VA office.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

Committee Approves Full-Size Flags Use

The House Veterans Affairs Committee has approved legislation which will restore use of full-size flags in ceremonial burials of ex-servicemen and sent the measure to the House floor.

The measure, HR-2656, prescribes that burial flags shall be 5 feet in width and 91-2 feet in length. These flags are furnished by the VA to drape the caskets of deceased veterans.

The committee action reverses a controversial administration economy move which had reduced the size of the burial flags.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

WANTED: Janitor for art school. Thirty dollars a week and all you can see.

PAY 1-9-6-7 DUES N-O-W!

WANTED: A writer with a sense of humor who will not be funny around the office.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

LOST: Invalid's wheel chair by lady with a smooth cane bottom.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

FOR SALE: Deluxe electric stove by young lady with two front knobs.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

"WESTY" THE SCOUT

(Continued from Preceding Page)
from home. "And he loved cooking on rocks. I remember he cooked a chicken that way once." Like every mother, she worried about her son and the troop on overnights. "I was worried about it raining."

"Did your brother have much camping gear?" I asked Mrs. Clarkson.

"Oh, yes—everything. Father saw to that. He was so ambitious for him."

Mr. Westmoreland was so interested in his son's being a Scout that he drove into Spartanburg every Tuesday evening when the troop met, waited there for his son, and drove him home again. The father's investment paid big dividends.

Mrs. Clarkson said, "Years later father remarked, 'I never had one moment's anxiety about Childs'."

I asked Mrs. Westmoreland if she sewed on all of her son's Scout badges. "Yes, I always wanted them to be exactly right. He was particular, too."

Was there any one merit badge that proved more difficult than the rest for her son? "No," she replied. Then, after a moment's reflection, she added, "But he used to take that little piece of rope to bed when he was practicing knot tying."

The church and its activities too, were important to the future general. His friend Cleveland and "Westy" often attended Sunday school at Young People's Service League meetings together. The Y.P.S.L. brought together many of the church's youth. When I asked if "Westy" dated the girls much, Cleveland said, "Yes, he dated, but couples didn't go steady in those days. Boys and girls usually went in groups to school and church social activities."

Westy's high school teachers recall him as a "hard worker, attentive, and thoughtful of others." His grades were always in the 90s. Cleveland described him as "a good average student, not a 'gold star'—he had to plug." The future soldier also found time for track, debating, and the literary society.

"He was a good student," his sister recalled. "But he didn't like to read—unless he was particularly interested in the subject. Not English—that was his worst. He liked history. He won a medal given by the United Daughters of the Confederacy for a paper he wrote on Fort Sumter."

His mother spoke of his trouble with spelling. "It caused him trouble right up to his graduation from West Point."

Early in his career he was a Scoutmaster at an army post in Oklahoma; he has served on Scout committees in Pennsylvania and Hawaii. When he was superintendent at the Academy in the early part of this decade, he was a member of the Region 2 committee. While at Fort Bragg, just before he was assigned to Vietnam, he was a member of the Oconeechee (Raleigh, N.C.) Council Executive Board. As chairman of the council's 1964 Together plan, he opened the door for hundreds of boys to become Scouts when his committee organized 139 new Scout units. The council awarded him the Silver Beaver for distinguished service to boyhood.

—PAY 1967 DUES N-O-W!

"Oh, Spare That Tree"



Many requests have poured into The Octofoil during recent weeks from members in various areas, asking that some old Fort Bragg scenes be printed. Just in case someone has forgotten how tall the pine trees grow in the Tar Heel state of North Carolina, pictured above are two old Fort Bragg buddies holding up one of those tall pines. The G.I.s are Pfc. Johnny Tomastick, Co. M, 47th, and Pfc. Louis Novak, Co. H, 47th—photo made in 1942—property of Wilton Taylor, Rt. 1, Star Route, Lost Hills, Calif.