

CHRISTMAS TREE GLOWS UNTIL BOYS COME MARCHING HOME

The currently popular tune "I'll Be Home for Christmas" symbolizes the hope of soldiers' wives and mothers everywhere for a speedy conclusion of the war, but an Erie woman has a firmer faith in the proximity of victory.

In the living room of her home, Mrs. Oscar Adam keeps lighted a Christmas tree that has stood since last December. It will remain there, she vows, until her two soldier sons return home.

One son, Bill, 25, now overseas, entered the service last January. Seven months later, the other son,

Bob, 18, went off to war. The tree remains in the Adam household.

"When are you going to take the tree down, Ma?" the boys joked in their letters.

"I'll leave it up until you both come home," was her reply.

"It all started as a joke," said Mrs. Adam, explaining that that sort of humor always went on in the Adam home when the boys were around.

"But it has real meaning now," she added, pointing to the hardy evergreen from which not a needle has fallen. The colored balls bear a coating of dust "just to prove it has been up that long."

PORT MATILDA

D. L. Ross, who has been bedfast for the past week, was removed to the Phillipsburg State Hospital Saturday, Sept. 25.

Ronny Weaver, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Weaver who was operated on for appendicitis in the Phillipsburg State Hospital, is reported to be improving. He has been a patient for the past month.

The first fall meeting of the Port Matilda Parent-Teacher Association was held in the high school building last Tuesday evening. The president, Mrs. Jessie Lykens, presided. Committees were appointed, and it was

voted to have the meeting once a month. Prof. William A. Ross gave a report of enrollment of schools and asked that all teachers and parents attend these meetings. After the business session, the group was entertained by the Drum and Bugle Corps from State College which was enjoyed by all. The refreshment committee served the entertainers, and it is hoped they can come again.

The Neighborhood Garden Club held their regular meeting Thursday, Sept. 23, at the home of Mrs. J. H. Crain. This meeting was held at the picnic grounds. After the meeting the ladies played games and had some readings, after which a large table was set and a picnic dinner served to all, which consisted of fried chicken and salads and everything that goes with a picnic dinner. The club hopes Mrs. Crain will invite them again next year.

The Bond drive sponsored by the Garden Club has been taken care of and people of the town have not cooperated very well in buying the bonds. It is hoped that in the next few days there will be more bonds sold.

John Crain had an apple butter boiling and it was rather exciting, as no one expected to hear of apple butter being made this season, and some folks who helped had never seen apple butter made. No doubt these folks will make apple butter next year.

Anyone knowing of any soldier in the armed forces whose name should be on the Port Matilda honor roll will please hand his name in to Adah Marshall or Charles Woodring at the Community Band, and they will arrange to have it placed on the roll.

Rev. Joseph Weaver of the United Brethren church was sent back to the Port Matilda charge for another year.

The State Highway department is building some new road in the borough which has been needed for a long time. It is hoped they complete all of it while they are in the borough. It may do some good if the Council would realize that streets also need repaired as most of them are not fit to travel on with crushed limestone ruining shoes which are rationed.

Injured on Maneuvers

Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sheriff, of Chester Hill, that their son, Ralph W. Sheriff, is a medical patient at the Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colo. He was taken there for observation and treatment for concussion and head injuries received while on maneuvers. Ralph was one of the boys selected from Camp Crowder, Mo., for the STAR unit and sent to Colorado State Teachers' College where he was taking his college training.



In Australia



Paul L. Frye

Private First Class Frye, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Frye, of Port Matilda, is 21 years of age. He entered the army December 29, 1942. From the New Cumberland reception center he was sent to Camp Hale, Colo., where he received his basic training, and was then transferred to Fort Bliss, Texas, for three months, before going abroad. He is now somewhere in Australia. Pfc. Frye was employed by the McPeeley Brick Co., Port Matilda, before entering the service. He is a member of the Methodist church at Port Matilda.

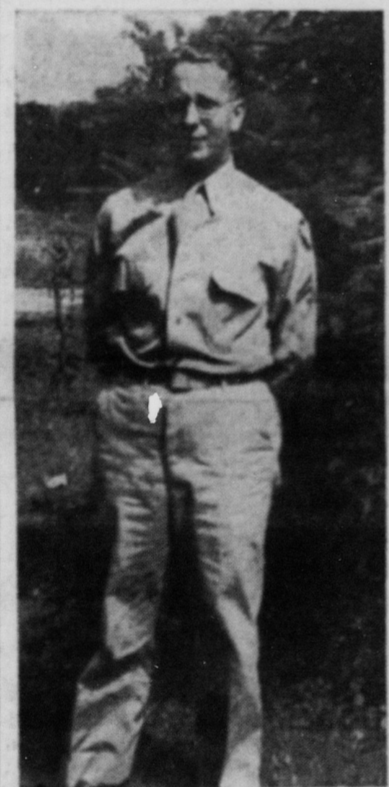
Four Brothers in Army Service



Pfc. Glenwood L. Gillette

T-5 Orvis Gillette

In Ordnance Service



Sgt. William H. Gillette

Pvt. Gerald L. Gillette

The Gillette brothers, members of a Centre county family which is doing more than its share in providing men for the armed forces, have another brother, Donald, who became 18 on September 14, and who is now seeking to enlist in the Navy. A sixth brother, Corliss, is 14 years old and a seventh brother, Malvin, 28, did not pass final physical examination.

The brothers are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Gillette, of Snow Shoe. Their father is employed as a carpenter. None of the boys is married.

T-5 Orvis Gillette, 27, enlisted June 19, 1941 and after a short period at New Cumberland was sent to Ft. Knox, Ky., where he remained until February 1942, when he was transferred to Camp Campbell, Ky. On June 28, 1943 he went to Nashville, Tenn. for maneuvers, and is now back in Camp Campbell where he is serving with an armed engineers division.

During the time T-5 Orvis Gillette was on maneuvers the Army lost track of him and he was reported AWOL. State Police and Military Police who called at his parental home to inquire about him received the same answer from his mother each time—"I'm getting letters from him down in Tennessee." Finally, several weeks ago, Mrs. Gillette received a letter of apology from Gillette's commanding officer. The letter said T-5 Gillette was a good soldier with a fine record. He'd been reported AWOL by mistake, and the captain assured the soldier's mother that his army record was clear.

Sgt. William H. Gillette entered the service June 19, 1941, the same day as his brother, Orvis. From New Cumberland he was sent to Ft. Knox, Ky., where he remained until November, 1942, when he was transferred to Ft. Benning, Ga. On June 26, 1943, he was sent to Nashville, Tenn., for maneuvers, after which he returned to Ft. Benning. He is engaged as a cook in an engineers' division. Prior to entering the service Sgt. Gillette was employed in "Bike" O'Brien's mines at Snow Shoe.

Pfc. Glenwood L. Gillette, 23, began his army service on April 22, 1941 when he went to New Cumberland. From there he was transferred to Indiantown Gap, then to Camp Livingston, La., then to Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, and finally to Camp Pickett, Va.

In May this year he embarked for North Africa and when last heard from was serving with the infantry in Sicily. Before entering the army Pfc. Gillette was employed at the Snow Shoe Knitting Mill.

Pvt. Gerald L. Gillette, 20, enlisted in the Marines on September 9, 1942, and was sent to Parris Island, S. C., for preliminary training. On November 15, 1942 he was transferred to the training center at New River, N. C., and on January 11, 1943 went to Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California. Late in January he embarked for duty somewhere in the South Pacific.

BLANCHARD

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Packer have again received word from the Army officials that their son, Malcolm, was very seriously wounded while on active duty. Malcolm requested his parents to send him a telegram of 5 words which has been done.

Seaman Robert Lindsey, having completed his boy's training at Great Lakes, Ill., arrived home on Friday morning for a seven-day furlough before being sent to a signalman's school.

Seaman Earl Holter of the Great Lakes Naval Station, arrived home on Saturday for his 7-day furlough. Both boys were inducted into the Navy at the same time.

Guests of Mrs. W. H. Spangler last week were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hand of Manahawken, N. J.

Walter Lindsey came home from York for a few days' visit with his son while on furlough.

Miss Marybelle Miller returned to her home on Sunday after a week's visit at Alden, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Council of Lock Haven, were Sunday evening guests at the R. J. Spangler home.

Charles Williams, manager of Wolfe's Market, has again resumed his residence in the house he formerly occupied. His sister, Miss Blanche Williams, is caring for the house and the three children.

WHEN WINDS GET ROUGH

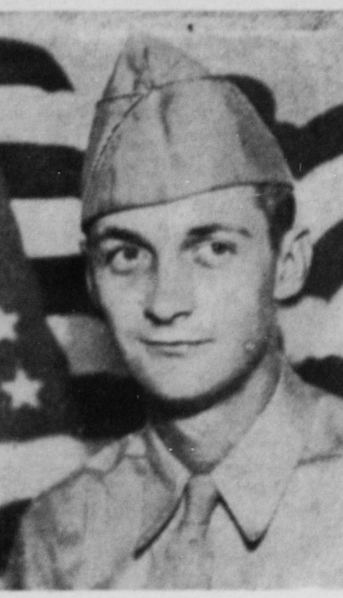
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Machine Specialist



James E. Beals

Pvt. Beals, son of Mr. and Mrs. Beals of Moshannon, has completed basic military training at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and has been selected to attend Machinists' Specialists School at Camp Santa Anita, Calif. Before induction into the armed forces, Pvt. Beals was employed by the Glen L. Martin Co. of Baltimore.

Poets' Corner

THEY ALSO SERVE.

They also serve who only sit and wait.

The postman comes but passes by "he says."

"No news today," she sighs and turns away.

Beats to her tasks to wait another day.

Maybe tomorrow brings the longed for word.

That he is safe and, trusting in the Lord.

She goes about without a sign there was a doubt.

Of his safe landing on the other side.

But deep down in her heart she'll find.

The thought, He is so young, oh!

Wait safe for me.

Another night will pass and then his fate?

Ms. be some news will come, why is the post man late?

There he comes now, he turns in at the gate.

She stands up the mail that he has brought.

But doesn't find the message that she sought.

So, fumbling at the papers to unfold there in large headlines, unsparring and so bold.

Another ship gone down!

She stands there mute, dry-eyed and pray—

When will I know, oh, what will be his fate?

They also serve who only sit and wait.

—By a Mother.

OUR HERO.

When I was in the eighth grade I had a teacher fine.

Who'd meet a student half-way.

With things that'd come to mind.

He didn't wear a lace shirt.

Or anything so fancy.

As such, would make the students stare.

And call him little Nancy.

But instead he'd come to school.

With everything looking neat.

His tie in place, his hair combed down.

And his shoes tapping to a beat.

So much for the school days, but now we go to war.

And pretty soon we find that he isn't around any more.

First he was here.

Then he was there.

Until he popped up.

'Cross the ocean somewhere.

Now he is in the Motherland.

Learning more about the war.

So he can help the Allies.

Stop the Axis on their tour.

Now, I suppose you are wondering.

But I bet you could not guess.

Who our great Hero is.

Because we love all the rest.

He isn't just the fella!

Who'd make a great big fuss.

We all called him "Mr. Heckman."

But to you it would be "Rusa."

—Elroy H. Wallizer, Walker Twp. High School.

TO MY SOLDIER HUSBAND.

I am sitting here at our table.

Looking at your picture, dear.

I'm thinking of hours I've wasted.

When I could be of some holding you near.

All the world was bright and happy.

And the birds sang all day long.

They sang of two lonely people.

Who loved till the break of dawn.

We courted and courted each other.

As long as the years come and go.

We didn't know much sorrow.

Because we loved each other so.

One day bad news came to us.

The news we never will forget.

Until you come back to me, my darling.

And tell me you love me yet.

The news was, the Army wanted you.

To fight for the ones you love.

So when this war is over.

I'll see the man I love.

So my darling I will just keep waiting.

And I'll write to you every day.

I will always be thinking of you.

Even though you are far away.

So darling I will tell the people.

This war will soon be won.

And all of us back home.

Will be proud of their husbands and sons.

So my darling keep your chin up.

And we'll pray till this war is won.

So all you young Americans.

Can say his duty was done.

—Mrs. Arthur L. Burd, Bellefonte, R. D. 3.

The DO's and DON'Ts of Mailing Packages to Service Men Overseas

DO try to mail them as soon as you can!

DO address all packages in ink . . . it is more legible!

DO wrap them in corrugated paper or boxes!

DO put their complete address on all packages!

DO send them something useful and interesting!

DON'T wait until the last day . . . boats will be crowded.

DON'T use a label or sticker for addressing. It may fall off.

DON'T make it too hard to open. All packages are inspected.

DON'T wait for his letter of request. None is necessary.

DON'T mail in flimsy box. They take tough treatment.

DON'T forget to mark each gift package "Christmas parcel."

DON'T send them anything perishable . . . it may spoil or break.

DON'T forget the WAC's, nurses and Red Cross workers overseas.

DON'T send any package weighing over five pounds.

DON'T mail anything larger than 36 inches in length plus girth.

DON'T forget their army serial number and APO address.

PLANS.

Plan for the tomorrow.

Even tho' the world is gray today.

Plan for the tomorrow.

And pray that sunshine is not too far away.

Buy Bonds and the gray clouds will melt and depart.

Then keep on buying them and do your part.

Soon the sun will chase the clouds away.

And the world once more will be care-free and gay.

—Miss Lottie Nilson.

Marshall Was Kicked Out of His First Job

Gen. George C. Marshall, the Army's chief of staff, proved a failure as the boy behind the organ in St. Peter's Episcopal church at Uniontown, he admitted in a letter to the Rev. Bernard C. Newman, the present pastor.

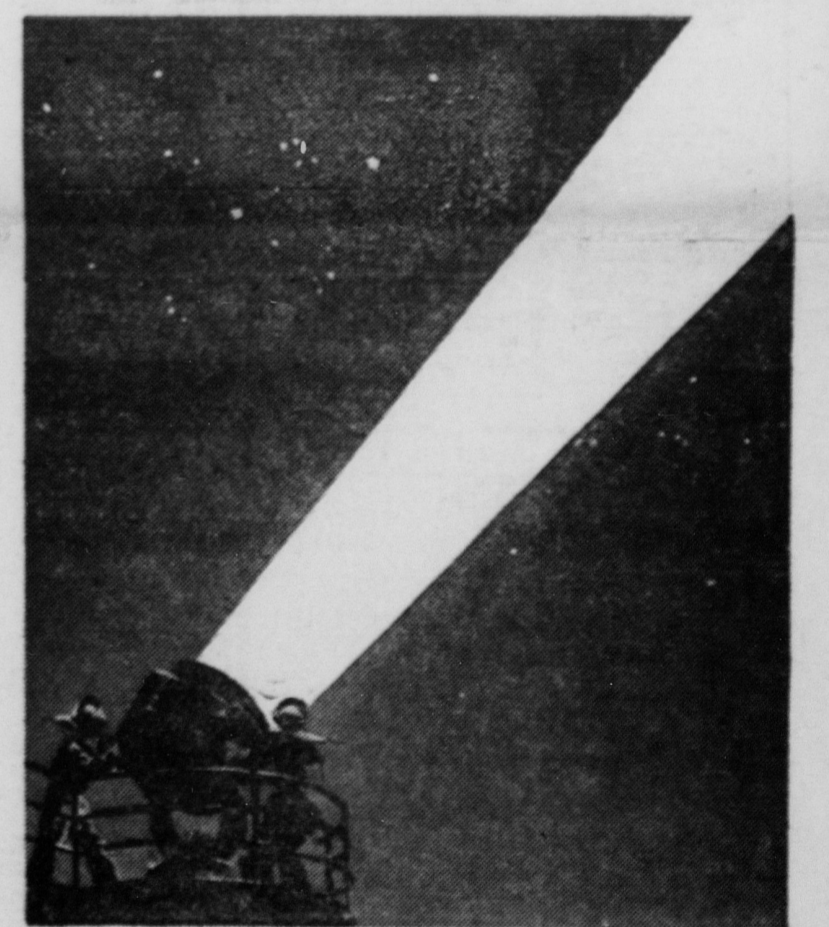
Gen. Marshall, in a note accompanying an autographed portrait which will hang in a place of honor in the parish house, recalled that he was relieved of his job of pumping the church organ "for failing to provide air at a critical moment, having become deeply engaged in a Nick Carter novel."

"Miss Fannie Howell was my boss upon whom the unpleasant duty fell, but I suffered more at home after the event than from Miss Fannie."

Gen. Marshall, native of Uniontown, was baptized in St. Peter's on June 5, 1881, and was confirmed in the same church Feb. 7, 1896. He sent his portrait at the request of the Rev. Mr. Newman.

AT 102, WALKS TO CHURCH

Mrs. Esther Emily Prugh, born near Kittanning in Armstrong county, Sunday celebrated her 102nd birthday at a family gathering in Greensburg, where she has lived since 1898. She still does a part of the family cooking and walks four blocks to church twice each Sunday.



THIS IS GOOD LIGHTING

But not to read by

When you read at night, you want enough light, but you want it free from glare. You want it well placed, so that it will fall on your paper, but you do not want it so sharply focused that the rest of the room is dark.

Lighting engineers have tried to devise lamps which, as nearly as possible, recreate the lighting conditions under a big, shady tree on a bright, cloudless day.

Protect your eyes by making sure that your reading lamp is well placed; that the rays from the bare bulb are broken up by a diffusing bowl; and that there is some general illumination in the room. Always keep the bulb, bowl, and shade clean, as dust cuts down the efficiency.

Remember, good light protects your sight.

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