



KEEP FAITH
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by buying
WAR BONDS

The Centre Democrat

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1945



WAR BONDS
MEAN MORE THAN A
GOOD INVESTMENT

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

10 Countians On Casualty Lists

Total for Week Shows One Dead; Four Missing and Five Wounded in European Theatre of Operations.

Ten Centre County casualties in World War II during the week list one as having died as the result of wounds; four missing, and five wounded in action, according to War Department messages received by relatives.

Pvt. Donald H. Meyers, 24, Pleasant Gap, died January 7, as the result of wounds received in action in Belgium, Belgium, December 20.

Pvt. Theodore J. Catherman, 19, of Moose Run, in Belgium, January 4.

Cpl. Carl W. Bailey, 30, of Port Matilda, in France, January 1.

Pvt. Robert B. Wagner, of State College R. D., in Belgium, January 10.

The Wounded:

Pfc. Clark C. Custer, 33, of Milesburg, seriously, in Germany on January 17.

Pvt. Walter J. Charnik, 20, Clarence, slightly, in Belgium January 9.

Pvt. Harold O. Peters, 20, Bellefonte, slightly, in Luxembourg on January 12.

Pvt. Harry C. Masold, 19, formerly of Bellefonte, in Luxembourg on January 12.

Pfc. Harold L. Neff, 21, Bellefonte R. D., slightly in France January 4.

Sgt. Drapcho Missing.



Sgt. Drapcho Missing.

Staff Sergeant, Cyril A. Drapcho has been missing in action in Luxembourg since December 20, it was revealed Friday morning in a War Department message received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emro Drapcho, of Clarence.

Sgt. Drapcho was one of the first Centre county men to volunteer for service from the Bellefonte Draft Board, presenting himself before the board on October 28, 1940. He left the day before Thanksgiving for basic training and was stationed at Camp Hood, Texas, and elsewhere before going overseas last October, landing in England.

He was serving with an infantry unit and subsequently went into Belgium and Germany and finally into Luxembourg. In a letter written to his mother December 13, and received two weeks ago, he told of meeting his brother, Pfc. Emro Drapcho, whom he had seen the day before. The letter was written in a rest camp and Sgt. Drapcho wrote, "It feels good to sleep in a bed."

All of the five children of Mr. and Mrs. Drapcho are in service. In addition to Sgt. and Pfc. Drapcho, others are First Lt. Joseph, now in the Pacific war theatre; First Lt. Edward, also in Luxembourg; and Cpl. Jo Ann of the WACs, now stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

Pvt. Meyers Killed.

Pvt. Donald H. Meyers, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter T. Meyers of Pleasant Gap, died January 7, of wounds received in action in Belgium, Belgium, December 20.

The Pleasant Gap soldier was a member of a Glider Infantry Division of the paratroopers. He was inducted into the service April 25, 1942, and at New Cumberland was first assigned to an armored infantry division and took basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and two months later was sent to Ft. Des Moines, Iowa.

Just a year later he was sent to Camp Chaffee, Ark., where he was assigned to the 14th Armored Infantry Division. Last fall he went on maneuvers at Nashville, Tenn., and at the completion of this phase of training was sent to Camp Campbell, Ky.

Last August Pfc. Meyers volunteered for training with the paratroopers and was sent to Ft. Benning, Ga., and after receiving his wings on September 16, he spent a short furlough at his parents' home. He went overseas in November.

The county soldier attended the Spring township school and was employed by Whitlock Quarries for more than three years before entering the armed forces. In addition to his parents, the following sisters and brother survive: Mrs. Wilbur Breen and Mrs. Melvin Burrell, both of Pleasant Gap; T/S Ray H. Mey-

ers, somewhere in the South Pacific, and Rose Marie Meyers, at home.

T 5 Peters Wounded.

Technician Harold O. Peters, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Peters of Bush Addition, Bellefonte, was slightly wounded in action in Luxembourg on January 12, his parents learned in a War Department message received Saturday.

The county technician enlisted in Troop C of Tyrone, formerly cavalry, now a mechanized unit, in February, 1941, and trained at Indiantown Gap. Later he spent some time on maneuvers in southern states, and in October, 1942, was sent overseas, landing in Ireland. He is believed to have taken part in the D-Day invasion of France and went with his group into Luxembourg. His last letter to his mother was received just before Christmas.

Tech. Peters' family lived in Milesburg and in Tyrone and he attended schools there before entering service. The family moved to Bellefonte some time ago. He has a brother, Pfc. Fred Peters, who is believed to have gone overseas recently.

Pvt. Catherman Missing.

Pvt. Theodore James Catherman, 19, of Moose Run, husband of the former Dorothy Hahn of Moshannon, has been missing in action in Belgium since January 4, his wife learned in a War Department message received last week.

Pvt. Catherman, son of Mrs. Nora Catherman of Moose Run, near Milesburg, was serving with the infantry. He entered service on April 5, 1944, and while home on furlough on July 2, he was married in Milesburg. Within a short time he spent another furlough of about a week with his wife and mother.

The county soldier trained at Ft. Meade, Md., and later was sent to Ft. McClellan, Ala., where he remained until being sent overseas last November, landing in France, and finally into Belgium.

He attended the Pine Glen school while the family lived in that community and before entering service was employed at the Barger coal mines at Karthaus. He has a brother, R. D., and husband of the former Foyllis Rocky of Halmores Terrace, Bellefonte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rocky of Buffalo Run Valley, was slightly wounded in action in France on January 4, a War Department telegram received Friday by his wife, revealed.

The county soldier was called for service March 1, 1942, and trained with a headquarters unit at Fort Lewis, Wash., and then was sent to Moscow, Idaho, for two weeks before going to the University of California, where he remained for nine months. He was then transferred to the Air Force and was sent to Buckley Field, Colo., for training, and after a short period was sent to Pullman, Wash., to attend cadet school.

Subsequently Pfc. Neff was transferred to the infantry and went to

RAILROADS AND ROADS BLOCKED BY DEEP SNOW

High Winds, Frequent Snow Storms Cause Giant Drifts Over Entire County

All forms of transportation in Centre county have been suffering from the unusually heavy accumulation of snow and from high winds which blow great drifts across roads and railroads almost as soon as they have been opened.

The drifting is made more serious through the fact that during the past week there have been several additional light snow storms, and the new snow is carried away by ven light winds.

So deep have the drifts become in some sections of the county that the State Highway Department has been compelled to rent two bulldozers to clear some roads. These machines have been in operation for several weeks, and for a time were operating 24 hours a day.

Yesterday one bulldozer was opening up the road between Pine Grove Mills and State College, and the other was working on the road between Oak Hill and Centre Hall.

Bulldozers are needed when the snow is too heavy to be moved by the giant plow-equipped department trucks.

The Highway Department used bulldozers to open up the road leading into the Black Moshannon airport, where four or five persons are employed at the weather station. The runways also were cleared of the deep, heavily drifted snow to provide emergency landing space for aircraft.

All the main highways in the county were closed yesterday and were declared to be in fair condition. Many secondary roads, however, were blocked. The secondary road leading from the Pleasant Gap-Zion highway, past the airport to Bellefonte, was open early this week but had drifted shut yesterday.

Many secondary roads have sections which are open only to one-

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BELLEFONTE MAN BECOMES MAJOR

Roy Wilkinson, Jr., 29, Receives Promotion; Is at Front in Belgium

A Bellefonte youth who enlisted in the Army as a back private three days after Pearl Harbor, is now a Major in a field artillery unit and is in the thick of the fighting in Belgium, it was revealed Tuesday when Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wilkinson, of North Spring street, Bellefonte, received word of the promotion of their son, Captain Roy Wilkinson, Jr., to the rank of Major.

Major Wilkinson, 29, enlisted in the Army at Altoona on December 10, 1941, and was sent to Ft. Bragg, N. C., for basic training. In April 1942, he became a corporal, and passed examinations for a second lieutenant, being sent to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, for further training.

After a transfer to Camp Atterbury, Ind., where he was assigned to the field artillery, he returned to Ft. Sill where he received his commission as a first lieutenant. Subsequent training at Ft. Leonard Wood,

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HAVE 3 MISHAPS IN 9-MILE TRIP

Two Bellefonte Business Men in Epic Journey From College

It has been so long since many of us have had any experience in cross-country driving in automobiles that a motor saga by two well-known Centre county men, on a nine-mile journey from State College to Bellefonte, Monday morning, assumes the aspect of high adventure.

Charles Scott, of the First National Bank, Bellefonte, and R. Paul Campbell, Bellefonte attorney, both reside in State College, and commute daily to their work here.

They set out as usual, Monday morning, to drive to the County Seat, thinking little of the recent snowfall and the high winds which had caused deep drifts.

They managed to drive through drifts and negotiate one-way lanes where plows had gouged narrow paths in the worst spots, until they

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Charged With Taking Tires from Tractor

Clarence William Zerby, 42, of Spring Mills, and Perry Ray Decker, 32, of Spring Mills, R. D., are under \$500 bail each for their appearance in court on charges of larceny.

The men, arrested by State Police from Roskview station, were given hearings before Squire Abram Houser of Rockview, and entered pleas of guilty. They were released from custody when they furnished bail.

They are charged with stealing two tires and tubes from a tractor after the public sale at the Mrs. Ophie Dobbes farm near Spring Mills on December 15. The tractor was sold at the sale and when the new owner claimed the machine he found that the two front tires and tubes had been removed.

W. B. Cook Purchases Lock Haven Hotel

William B. Cook, former well-known Beech Creek automobile dealer, has purchased the Irvin Hotel at Lock Haven from the Boyne Brothers, it was announced yesterday.

Mr. Cook, who moved to Lock Haven from Beech Creek in 1938 and who was in the automobile business in that city until entering military service; recently was granted an honorable discharge from the army. Since then he has been conducting a garage in Lock Haven, where he holds the DeSoto and Plymouth agency.

The Irvin Hotel consists of 75 rooms, and Mr. Cook plans to completely remodel and redecorate the building.

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Draft Calls Show Sharp Increases

105 Men Involved In Board 1 Calls to Affect Orders From Board 2, Bellefonte

Reminiscent of the heavy selective Service calls during the early stages of the war, the February lists released this week by Local Board No. 2, of Bellefonte, are the heaviest in many months.

Twenty-four men have been directed to report to Harrisburg for induction on Tuesday, February 6, four others reported for immediate induction during January, and 77 others have been notified to appear for pre-induction physical examinations at Harrisburg on Monday, February 5.

The lists follow:

Men ordered to report for pre-induction physical examination, February 5, are:

Frederick Blair Peters, Phillipsburg; Ellis Keith Anderson, Bellefonte; William Ollie Barnes, Niagara Falls, N. Y. (Phillipsburg); Gilbert Lloyd Adams, R. D. Port Matilda; Vaughn Monroe Rider, R. D. 1, Bellefonte; Donald Henry Shuey, R. D. 2, Hubersburg; Hubert Henry Vonada, Howard, R. D. 2.

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Overseas Bride Here

The county's first overseas war bride, Mrs. Louis Carpeneto, wife of Staff Sergeant Carpeneto, of Bellefonte, recently was in Bellefonte for a brief visit with her husband's grandmother, Mrs. Louis Carpeneto, of South Allegheny street, and with other relatives in this area.

Mrs. Carpeneto is the former Miss Irene McPartlin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McPartlin, of "Taylors," Donegal Road, Belfast, Ireland. She left London on January 13 aboard a hospital ship bringing hundreds of seriously wounded soldiers to this country, and was one of 17 war brides aboard the ship.

During the crossing she and the others helped relieve the monotony of the trip for the wounded men by reading and talking to them. Some of the men were blinded, many had lost an arm, leg, and some were minus one foot or both feet. Prior to reaching port, Mrs. Carpeneto and the other civilians aboard attended a two-hour class in which they were told what not to reveal about the trip in order not to impede the war effort.

Food in the British Isles is far more scarce than in the United States, Mrs. Carpeneto said. In a week the individual ration calls for a very small piece of butter, some-quarter pound of meat, and sometimes one or two eggs. During one period she didn't see an egg for five months.

Many meals are made up entirely of potatoes and butter milk.

In December Mrs. Carpeneto and her husband heard a German robot bomb pass over the section of London in which they live and fall about six miles away.

"What a relief to be away from

(Continued on page 3)

4-H CLUB LEADERS DISCUSS PLANS

A Series of Enrollment Meetings to be Held During February

Detailed plans for organizing the 1945 4-H Clubs in at least nine communities of Centre county were outlined on Monday at a leaders' luncheon held in the Penn Belle Hotel at Bellefonte. Assisting the leaders in the discussions were County Agent Ralph C. Blaney, assistant County Agent William E. Tompkins, who handles the 4-H work, and William S. Jeffries, State 4-H Club leader.

A series of enrollment meetings has been planned for the month of February in order to have all Centre county clubs formally organized for the National 4-H Club Week, starting March 3. One new community which in recent years had no 4-H club, and where the ninth club will probably be formed, is Boalsburg. Fred Markle, who had assisted with the Pine Grove Mills club will probably be the local leader of the Boalsburg 4-H club.

Other community clubs will be formed by boys and girls of these communities.

Lt. Albert Mack Is Killed in Belgium

Second Lt. Albert C. Mack was killed in action in Belgium on January 9, according to a telegram received from the War Department last week by his wife, the former Patsy McLaughlin, daughter of Patrick McLaughlin, formerly of Snow Shoe, and the former Myrtle Robinson of Mt. Eagle, who now live at Jersey Shore.

In addition to his mother, Mrs. Catherine Mack of Lock Haven, and one brother and five sisters, he is survived by his wife and seven and one-half month old son, Billy Pat, whom he had never seen.

Serving with a heavy armored unit of the infantry, Lt. Mack had been twice wounded. He was hospitalized in England for a while and later rejoined his unit for the western front fighting. He had been in the army for over three years and prior to entering had been employed at the Lock Haven Paper Mill.

Bellefonte Youth Suffers Laceration

Allen M. Kofman, aged 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kofman, of East Linn street, Bellefonte, received treatment for a laceration of the bridge of his nose, Friday afternoon, at the Centre County Hospital.

The child was injured when he was struck by a shovel while he was playing with his brother, Charles, at the Kofman home.

PRISONER WRITES TO RELATIVE HERE

Mrs. Earl K. Stock, of East High street, this week received the first letter from her nephew, S. Sgt. William S. Edmiston, of Bellefonte, since he was taken prisoner by the Germans in January 1944.

Although the local man's mother and sister, Mrs. Nellie Edmiston and Miss Betty Edmiston, both of South Spring street, and Mrs. Stock, have written to him repeatedly and have sent him a number of boxes, Sgt. Edmiston reported in his letter to Mrs. Stock, written on October 4, that he had received only two letters written by Mrs. Stock on June 8 and July 9. He has received no packages at all and for nine months didn't receive any mail.

Sgt. Edmiston wrote, in part: "I finally got my foot healed up but there still are a few pieces of flak in my ankle which will have to be cut out. Our biggest problem now is

Local Man, in German Camp, Says Living Conditions 'Could be Better'

Recognizing the large amount of charity work performed by the Centre County Hospital, the State Welfare Fund has allocated \$1,000 to that institution for 1945, officials of the fund reported this week.

The new figure represents an increase of \$300 over the amount given to the hospital last year, and the additional funds are to be used to purchase necessary equipment. The new equipment, hospital officials said, will enable the institution to give even better service than in the past.

The hospital's share—nearly one-third of the total of the College Welfare Fund—is the largest item in the \$6,000 fund budget. The Welfare campaign in that city will be conducted from February 1 to 6.

Boy Scouts will receive \$1,200 instead of the \$800 allocation in 1944, but the Scouts are not to conduct

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Call Meeting On Vets Memorial

Council Committee Acts to Consolidate Opinion on Type and Nature of Memorial to be Erected Here

In an effort to consolidate public opinion and public effort on the type and nature of a soldiers' memorial to honor Centre county's men who have served in the nation's armed forces, the special committee of Bellefonte Borough Council has called a public meeting, to be held in the Logan House, East Harvard street, at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday, February 7.

Lodges, civic organizations, clubs, service groups and other organizations have been invited to send representatives to the meeting, and the committee also urges the public to be present.

In the letter of invitation, the committee explains: "Since Bellefonte is the county seat we feel that the veterans and citizens of the community should have a say as to what kind of a memorial they want and where they want it located. Bellefonte needs an extension to the airport, a playground, a recreation center, and a new wing to the Centre County Hospital."

Concluding, the letter states, "Perhaps we could have in this memorial of this type. For that reason

"It's Worse Here Than in Aleutians" Soldier Declares

Pfc. Clarence O. Hull

Pfc. Hull, who is spending his first furlough since entering the service on September 19, 1942, with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. George Hoover, of Phillipsburg, knows something of weather, for he's just returned from an 18 months' period of service on the Aleutian islands, which are generally considered to be the birthplace of bad weather.

And here's how Pfc. Hull feels after a few days in Centre county: "The weather here seems worse than it was up there when I left." And remember, he's been away from home for a long time, and he'd naturally feel like giving the old home county a break.

Pfc. Hull is 39 years old and prior to entering the service was employed at the Titan Metal Company here. He expects to return to his duties in the armed forces on February 25.

TO GIVE COURSE IN HOME BUILDING

Instruction Designed to Aid in Planning or in Purchasing Home

Residents of Bellefonte, Pleasant Gap, Milesburg, and surrounding districts who contemplate purchasing or building a home after the war will be interested in a course being sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce through the Pennsylvania State College.

The course will consist of six lessons, each of which will deal with one phase of the problem of building or buying a home. Building specialists from the department of Architecture of the College will direct the lessons and discussions.

The six main subjects are finance, site, planning, costs, construction and contracts. The course is planned primarily for persons of moderate means who have been thinking about planning on buying or building a home after the war. It is designed to help people select the site, plan the home, and give them an intelligent

PAST PRESIDENT OF CLUB HONORED

Scope of Veterinary Services

Presentation of a certificate of recognition to Bond C. White, past president of the local Kiwanis Club, and an address on the role of veterinary medicine in its relation to human welfare, featured the weekly luncheon of the Bellefonte Kiwanis Club at the Penn Belle Hotel, Tuesday.

The past-president's certificate, awarded by the International Board of Trustees of Kiwanis, was presented to Mr. White by George Hartman, lieutenant governor of this Kiwanis district, who attended the meeting as a guest. The citation commended Mr. White for his fine leadership. His devoted service to the club and for his successful administration last year.

In response Mr. White declared that his term as president was a most enjoyable experience, and expressed the belief that Kiwanis is the most democratic organization in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Hartman was introduced by club president, M. E. Rumberger, and the principal speaker of the day, Dr. W. T. S. Thorpe, of State College, director of animal path-

WATSON NAMED Y.M.C.A. SECRETARY

Former BHS Star Athlete Assumed Duties Here on Monday

Jack Watson, former all-around athlete at the Bellefonte High School has been named secretary and physical director of the Bellefonte Y. M. C. A. and began his duties here on Monday.

He fills the position which has been vacant since the death of Louis C. Heineman in the fall of 1943. Since that time, H. W. Rabert has been serving as manager of the Y., and he will continue in the employ of that institution, officials said.

Mr. Watson was born in Bellefonte, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Z. Watson, now of Altoona, and resided here until his graduation from the Bellefonte High School in 1936. In high school he was an outstanding football, basketball and baseball player.

After graduation he was employed for a time in Lock Haven and from there went to Clearfield where he became athletic instructor at the Y. M. C. A. After two years he accepted a similar position at Berwick.

Two years later Mr. Watson entered semi-professional baseball and (Continued on page 3)

'March of Dimes' to Continue Until Feb. 15

Because of abnormal weather conditions the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis yesterday notified Mrs. Balser Weber of Howard, Centre county chairman, that March of Dimes activities, scheduled to have concluded yesterday, will be continued until February 15.

The telegram to Mrs. Weber read: "Owing to abnormal conditions Mr. O'Connor authorizes the extension of the March of Dimes activities to February 15, 1945. Please notify your committee."

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LOCAL BROTHERS HOME ON FURLOUGH

One to Work at Titan; Other Had Quick Trip to Italy

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Casper, of North Thomas street, Bellefonte, have both of their sons home from the armed forces, temporarily, through widely different sets of coincidences.

T 4 Luther Casper, who has been stationed at Aberdeen, Md., since April 1944, when he returned from two years in the South Pacific, came here this week, as one of the men sent to Bellefonte by the Army to help with the manpower shortage at the Titan Metal plant.

His brother, Pfc. Henry Casper, of the Air Force, who was overseas to the Italian area in November 1944, also came home this week. Upon his arrival in Italy, Henry was transferred from one outfit to another, and finally the unit to which he was then attached received orders to return to the United States. Upon arrival here the men were given 30-day furloughs, and Henry came home. At the expiration of the furlough he will report to South Carolina for a new assignment.

Luther, who is in the Army Signal Corps, is the only Centre county man who has been sent here so far to aid at the Titan plant. He has been assigned here for 90 days, according to present plans. His wife, the former Esther Whitehead of Boalsburg, accompanied him to Bellefonte from Aberdeen. Luther was employed in the forge department at Titan several years ago, but when he entered the service he was employed by the Central Pennsylvania Gas Company.

Henry's military career has been brightened by many transfers before

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