Know Your Neighbor

residents know Abraham Simons as that "small, dark doubt, one of the best-liked and arrangements were made haired man" who sold used auto seamen ever to cross the for Abie to take an oral parts and "anything else you Edison's gangway with his examination.

and he was a used parts dealer almost impossible assignment. but other than that, "Abie" as he is known to friends and for his popularity aboard ship, them. neighbors in the area is a not the least of which was his

the former Dorothy Bevan of above all else. Freeland. Abe was born in with his parents when a small assistance but soon became a "dropout" when members of the school that Abe could not stay in

for someone when it is

assigned to the U.S.S. Edison desire to attain his goal was so Simon's service with the U.S.

Most Back Mountain area under Capt. Hepburn A. Pearce. great that with some doing,

might need". But that is far seabag on his shoulder and the from the true Abraham Simons. desire to please a grouchy A small man in stature - yes boswain, which in itself was an Many reasons were responsible generous and interesting almost inherent love of work an attribute that received early A resident of the Back precognition because in the Mountain for more than 40 entire history of the ship he was years, Abe Simons is married to the first man who put work

Within a week of his arrival, was serving. Housedill, and came to this area Abie was forced to seek However, this last son of boy. He was enrolled in the correspondence because he being discharged from the Beaumont Elementary school could neither read nor write - Navy. It is a rare occurance on his intelligence or his am- during the middle of hostilities administration finally realized bition to get ahead. It has never satisfactorily been explained Lt. S. Craw, top executive, Abe has never been a man to in the first place with such a action to tell him that despite join organizations or clubs but handicap, but in it he was, and the fact that he was one of the lived his entire life believing furthermore, he went on to Navy's best seamen, he was a that he is here to do something make Seaman I. C. This is a luxury, the service could no remarkable accomplishment longer afford. It was a hardship That is why Abie, during become a seaman first class, a in the service any longer; with Navy. At 31 years of age, the examination, and in Abie's case more pay than Capt. Péarce.

Abie Simon was, without a navy regulations were waived

"I can't write it," Abie told his superiors, "but if you'll ask me the questions I can talk that exam." So they asked the questions, and Abie answered

The rest is history. He made Seaman I. C. and became so much a part of the U.S.S. Edison, that he and Mrs. Simon named their seventh and last child "John Edison Simon" in honor of the vessel on which he

with his Abie's was the cause of Abie which was indeed, no reflection that a man receives a discharge but this was the case with Abie. how he came to be in the Navy came around in the midst of due to the fact that in order to on the government to keep Abie (J. KOZEMCHAK SR.)

Abraham Simons



Ahraham Simons

parts' business and raise seven Dallas.

certain that they all received an Edison, so will he always be education and he and Mrs. "pop" or "Grandpop" at home. Simon can look upon them with pride. Abie has been forced to retire due to a serious illness several years ago that has left him permanently disabled. In fact, against all odds he is still able to make his weekly trips to the Veterans Administration Hospital

Today his world is that of his children and his wife - seven children who are Mrs. William Watkins, Edwardsville; Abraham Jr., RD 3, Dallas; Mrs. Walter Watkins, Edwardsville; Mrs. David Perrego, Swoyersville; James,

World War II, joined the U.S. candidate must take a written his many allotments, he drew Navy came to an end and he Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown; came back to his home in the Dorothy Phillips, at home; and father of six children, he was it was impossible. But Abie's So it was that Abraham Back Mountain to open his 'used John Edison Simon, RD 1,

> children - seven children of He is the proud grandfather of whom today he can be proud. 15 children and just as he was Unlike himself, he has made "Pop" to the boys on the

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Abraham Simons and his wife, Helen Bevan Simons, with their seven children prior to his discharge from the Navy. Mr. Simons became a member of the U.S. military service and attained the

rank of Seaman 1.C. during World War II, without being able to



read or write.



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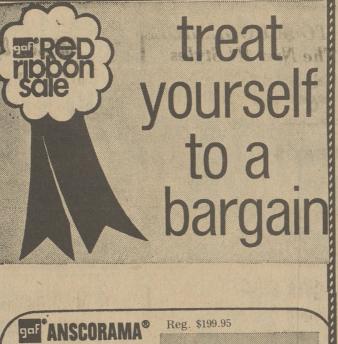


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