

92 Bethlehem Pike,
Ambler, Pennsylvania,
January 11, 1943.

Dear

As we stand on the threshold of the new year and look into the future, we see very definitely a brighter outlook than when we opened the door of January, 1942. A big task lies ahead for all of us but the whole complexion of the war has changed and we know that the groundwork of victory has been laid. Every day we are learning more and more the meaning of sacrifice. We have learned many lessons the past twelve months--we have learned to do without and to get along with less. American industry has achieved an undreamed-of miracle of production. When the history of the second world war is written, I feel confident that 1942 will be hailed as the turning point for it was during those months that we found ourselves. The past year has been marked by losses, mistakes, delays, discouragements but in spite of all these we have made advances toward our ultimate goal.

A few weeks ago Eddie Rickenbacker gave an account of his experiences during the 22 days he and his companions were forced down in the Pacific and left adrift on a life raft for more than three weeks before being rescued. It was a dramatic story telling how the little group overcame hunger, thirst and searing sun which drove them to the brink of madness. No one could read the story without being deeply touched and without a lump in the throat. They never lost faith, never abandoned hope and humbly offered up their prayers for deliverance. They organized prayer meetings and read from a little issue Bible which one of the men had among his meager possessions. This Rickenbacker epic of faith and courage should inspire all of us to even greater achievement in 1943. No doubt many of you have had experiences just as touching. Reading about them makes us on the home front know that we can never adequately express our appreciation and everlasting gratitude to you who are fighting for us in order that there will always be an America where mankind will be free and where we may live again in peace and security. No matter how long it may take, we must carry on in this mighty task with our minds keen, our hearts strong and our spirits kept high. The responsibility of victory rests on all of us. As we open the door of 1943, we folks back home as well as you in the service must make it a time for high resolves and the dedication of ourselves to the sacrifices which are the price of victory.

The Ambler High School students enjoyed a ten-day vacation starting on December 24. The play, "Quality Street," coached by Miss Bork and presented December 17 and 18, was a big success. All the parts were very well done. George Miller, Robert Harsch, Ann Hickey, and Anne Illingworth were outstanding. The ticket campaign ended with a record sale of 1478 tickets.

"A Jeep a Month" is the High School's new motto. It is the goal of the students to sell enough war bonds and stamps each month to buy one. From September to December the sales amounted to \$4672.55--enough to purchase five jeeps at \$900 each. The students have given over 300 books and 13 magazine subscriptions to the library at the U. S. Naval Reserve Air Base at Pitcairn Field in Horsham. The Band is practicing for its annual concert.

The Basketball season has opened. Only games in this vicinity will be played by the varsity due to transportation problems. Many schools have cancelled all their games. Mr. Henry is the coach. Ambler lost to Doylestown 20-19 and to Souderton 52-29. Two hundred graduates of Ambler High School are now in the armed forces.

Members of the High School football, cross country and hockey squads and the high school band were guests of honor on December 23 at a banquet given by the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Ambler. The guest speakers were Lt. Commander Carl T. Estes, of the U. S. Naval Reserve Aviation Base at Horsham and Lt. "Ducky" Pond, former football coach at Yale University. Congressman Ditter served as toastmaster.

Mrs. James Lauder has gone to Norfolk, Virginia, to join Mr. Lauder, Chief Petty Officer, who is now serving as an athletic instructor at the Navy Yard there. The seniors have started a school newspaper. It is issued every other week and is devoted entirely to school news.

The King's Daughters appreciated greatly the gratitude, good will and kind thoughts expressed in your holiday greetings. I wish to add my personal thanks and appreciation for the beautiful cards, letters, and messages sent to me. Your manifestations of gratitude and your thoughtfulness in remembering me brought me much happiness and assured me that you sincerely enjoy our monthly newsletters.

Now for some local news: Dr. Robert R. Smith was inducted into the army in the early fall. He was commissioned a lieutenant and is now located at Moore Field, Mission, Texas. Mrs. Smith and son, Bobby, joined him a few weeks ago. Mabel Ditter, who is associated with her father in his law offices, was recently admitted to practice before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. She graduated from the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania in June, 1942.

Each Monday seven women from the Ambler Colony Club go to the U. S. Naval Reserve Air Base at Horsham to mend and darn for the sailors. The first day the boys were so surprised they could not seem to get their mending together. Now that they know it isn't a gag, they find plenty for the ladies to do.

Bill Leary, Jr. is now serving with the U. S. Naval Reserve and is receiving his initial training in ground work and flying at Lehigh University. Lt. (jg) George Bradford Patterson, son of Rev. and Mrs. William C. Patterson of Gwynedd has been reported lost in naval action. He has been in active service since February, 1940. His twin brother, Philip, is a student at Yale Law School. A Service Flag honoring the 24 members of the congregation who are with the fighting forces was dedicated at the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church on Sunday evening, December 6. Congressman J. William Ditter was the speaker.

Sergeant Edward Murphy, Jr., U.S.M.C. has been transferred from San Diego, California, to Quantico, Virginia, where he will attend Officers' Training School. The Cruse-Kemper Company and the American Chemical Paint Company, both of Ambler are two of forty plants in the county which have at least 90% of their employees deducting 10% or more from their wages for war bond purchases and are entitled to fly the minute man Flag. December 10 was the third "Ambler Night" at the Stage Door Canteen in Philadelphia. Ambler still has the honor of being the only community to sponsor an evening at the Canteen. Lower Gwynedd Township honored 102 men now in service on Sunday, December 20.

Twin sons were born to Rev. and Mrs. Dow on November 24. They have been named Jack William Dow, Jr. and Jerry Wheaton Dow. Winnie Stong is stationed at Chanute Field, Illinois. Henry Scholz has been transferred from Parris Island to New River, North Carolina. Jack Kayser is at Bainbridge, Maryland. (Bainbridge is the former Tome School at Port Deposit and is now a naval training base.) Garland Childs is stationed at Duncan Field, San Antonio, Texas, and his brother Maurice is at Amarillo, Texas.

William Urban died Christmas Day at Abington Hospital. He was 71 years old. For the past 27 years he has served as Justice of the Peace in Ambler and has been a Republican Committeeman for 40 years. Mrs. Annie Lightkep, mother of Miss Bessie Lightkep, teacher at the Forrest Avenue School, died December 21.

A Service Flag was dedicated at the Calvary Methodist Church on December 27, honoring 30 members of the congregation now in service. John Roney and Henry Barry were among the recent draftees who left for Fort Meade, Maryland. I understand that Nick Barry has been commissioned a lieutenant and is located in Washington state.

December 20 was the coldest for that date in 71 years. On December 21 the thermometer registered two degrees below zero and set a six-year record. The four sons of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Betts are with the fighting forces. During the past few weeks all four of them have paid visits to their home. Sergeant James Betts dropped in overnight before sailing to parts unknown. Robert, a lieutenant, spent a ten-day furlough at home after service in Hawaii and at Midway Island. Officer Candidate Raymond, who saw sixteen months service in Hawaii arrived home Thanksgiving morning on a seven-day furlough and Private Donald Betts arrived home for the holiday, too.

A special committee has been organized in Ambler to plan a service flag raising. Tentative plans call for special exercises to be held on February 21 either at the Opera House or in the High School Auditorium. It has been suggested that the flag be flown on Butler Avenue between the National Bank Building and the Bell Telephone Building.

Private Harry Gibbs, Jr., who is at Fort Benning, Georgia, recently spent a fifteen-day furlough at his home. Lieutenant Vera Haff of the U. S. A. Nursing Corps, who was stationed at Fort Story is now at Fort Kilmer, New Jersey, awaiting overseas duty. She was home for the Christmas holidays and looked very fine in her uniform. Fred G. Martin (Bud) who enlisted in the Navy over two years ago arrived home Thanksgiving Day for a short furlough. He is on the "Chicago" and has now returned to duty with the Pacific Fleet. He has been in three battles since we entered the war--Pearl Harbor (at which time he was reported missing), Coral Sea, and Midway. This was his first visit home since long before the war.

Charles Kemmerer arrived home November 24 in time to celebrate his 20th birthday. He had a ten-day furlough after his seven weeks "boot" training with the Marines at Parris Island. Since his return he has been transferred to Cherry Point, North Carolina.

The engagement of Bernice Ruth Walters and Private Ralph Schwager U.S.M.C. has been announced. Miss Jane Morgan and William J. Bruckel, U.S.N.R. were married at St. Agnes' Church in Avon, New York, on Saturday, December 26. The engagement of Harriet Gump and Walter Dummeldinger has been announced. He is in the Army Air Corps and is now attending Teletype School at Chanute Field, Illinois. Another engagement is that of Elizabeth Weikert and Charles Kaufmann and still another is that of Mary Fales and Walter MacLaughlin.

Lester Jones is with the Air Force at Miami, Florida. He likes it very much--his only complaint is that the weather is too hot. That is a bit difficult for us to realize since we have been experiencing some very severe cold weather. Mrs. William Fenwick and son of Warren, Ohio, spent the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Stillwagon. Bob Flury expects to be sent overseas in the near future. "Buck" Johnson, who was inducted into the army in November, is stationed at the Army Air Base in Austin, Texas.

Mrs. Hellings, who has not heard from Dave since September, received a cable November 4, stating that he was fine and receiving her letters. His mail is now addressed London, England. Bob Coran, who enlisted in the Air Corps last April, was not called into the service until October. He is now an Air Cadet, with pilot's classification, stationed at Maxwell Field, Alabama. When Bob got to camp, feeling rather blue and confused in his new surroundings, he began talking to the boy in the next bunk and discovered that it was Bill Geddes from Ambler.

Dick Gump, who recently enlisted in the U. S. Navy and received a rating as Pharmacist's Mate, second class, has been transferred from the Philadelphia Navy Yard to the Naval Training Station at Bainbridge, Maryland. He recently spent a few days at his home. Private George W. Chiriano has been reported seriously wounded in action in North Africa on November 8. Norman Jones, teacher at the Mathias Sheeleigh School, left December 16 for the U. S. Coast Guard Officer Training School. Ralph Davies is located at Raritan Arsenal, New Jersey. Bob Davies is at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, awaiting assignment to another boat. You probably recall that he was on the "Wasp" when it sank and made a miraculous escape.

John Ware is with the 36th Engineers' Band in French Morocco. He writes that he likes the country very much and says it is so warm there they will probably be playing softball in their spare time all the year round. Dr. Carl Lorenz left on December 27 for active duty with the U. S. Navy at Naval Construction Camp Peary, Magruder, Virginia. He has been commissioned a lieutenant. William C. Thompson has been made assistant Field Director of the National Keystone Automobile Club Association. He has been associated with Keystone for the last sixteen years.

P. F. C. Daniel Brudder, who is stationed with the U. S. Army at the Redstone Ordnance Plant in Huntsville, Alabama, recently spent a ten-day furlough with his parents. Harold Carl, who is stationed with an Army flying base in Smyrna, Tennessee, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant. P.F.C. Joseph Bender has returned to Camp Polk, Louisiana, after spending a ten-day furlough with his family.

The engagement of Miss Ethel Mae Ely and Private Burton Davis, U. S. A., has been announced. Both are graduates of Ambler High School. Private Davis is stationed at an Army Air Base near New Orleans, Louisiana. Albert Dager, Jr., writes that he is seeing "plenty of action" with the U. S. paratroopers in North Africa. He entered the armed service a year ago, received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, trained as a parachutist at Fort Benning, Georgia, and landed in England in June.

Harold G. Knight, Jr. enlisted in the Navy and on December 15 was commissioned lieutenant (jg). He reported for duty January 2. His brother Ensign Alexander Knight has been with the U. S. Naval Air Corps since March. William P. Clifton is with the armed forces in Australia. James Rainey, who has been stationed at Atlantic City, has been transferred to Oklahoma for further training in the Air Corps. Jack Rainey spent the Christmas holidays at home. He returned to Camp Moultrieville, South Carolina, on December 29; however, he expects to be sent overseas shortly as the work he is now doing will be done by the WAACS.

Memorial Services were held for Kenneth Heywood (Happy) at the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 20. "Happy" lost his life in the battle of the Solomons, August 9, when the "Quincy" was sunk. It was a short but impressive service—two of his favorite hymns were sung—his mother received a corsage of white gardenias, presented to her by Richard Gump. Dick Slayton, a student of pharmacy at Temple University, has enlisted in the Army Air Corps and was inducted December 14 just as the ban on enlistments took place. He is classed as a student reserve until January when his junior year at college will be completed.

The Haag twins—Frank and George were graduated as second lieutenants on December 13 at Moody Field, Valdosta, Georgia. George has been transferred to Maxwell Field, Alabama, and Frank to Fort Dix, New Jersey. Franklin Pledge, who was with the Marine Corps at Parris Island, has been transferred to the Ordnance School, Quantico, Virginia. John Ambers has enlisted in the Navy. Jack Meyers is now stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Al Acuff is at Camp Polk, Louisiana. Charles Charlton left for service in the army the last of November. Before his departure he was married to Jean McCall. Marlin Collier, better known to his friend as "Boltzy" left December 1 for Camp Allen, Norfolk, Virginia. He is in the Navy Construction Battalion.

Mary Engle of Jarrettsville has joined the WAACS and left December 29 for training. Mary is well known in Ambler as the amiable girl who assists with the work at the Harris Department Store. Staff Sergeant Bill Gray arrived home from Parris Island on December 21 to spend a seven-day furlough with his family. On the last day of his visit home he was driving down Penlllyn Pike near Morris Road when his car skidded and crashed into a culvert. He was found to have a fractured skull, concussion of the brain and severe lacerations of the right arm. At the present time he is in a critical condition in the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. John Daly is in the U. S. Air Corps and reports that he is very happy in his new surroundings. The engagement of Doris Wood and Norman Urban has been announced.

If I were an artist, I should love to send a cartoon I recently saw. It shows a fond mother and dad Christmas shopping--it is very evident that the mother wants to select something very special for her son in the service, so she is pictured looking at men's dressing gowns. Dad frowns when he sees the luxurious and elaborate one she chooses, however, she turns and says to him, "He could wear it on his own time, couldn't he? Like in the morning, when he's lounging around waiting for the bugle to blow." I know some of you will appreciate that.

Football is over for another year. Thanksgiving Day was one of rejoicing for the Penn football team and coaching staff. Sixty-two thousand fans saw Penn defeat Cornell 34-7. On November 26, before 2,000 fans in the last three minutes of play, an underdog Doylestown High eleven knocked the 1942 Bux-Mont Conference Championship from the grasp of Iansdale High, handing the latter a 13-12 defeat. The set back gave the title to Springfield High. Up to the last three minutes of play, the score was 12-0. It was the first defeat of the season for Iansdale. In another upset, Souderton battered Ambler High into a 25-0 defeat on the Souderton Field Thanksgiving Day. On November 28, before 11,700 spectators the Navy stunned the favored Army eleven 14-0. The game was played at Annapolis. On the same date Villanova defeated Temple 20-7. Cleo Calcagni has been elected captain of the 1943 Penn team. Dartmouth will play Penn next fall. Dick Harlow, head football coach at Harvard University, has secured leave of absence to enter the Navy. He has been commissioned a lieutenant commander. He reported for active duty on December 1 and is at the new navy rest center at Pocono Manor where he is directing a recuperating program for sick and wounded navy personnel.

Connie Mack celebrated his 80th birthday on December 23 and was feted by the Philadelphia Baseball Writers' Association. He has piloted the A's to nine league championships and five World Series titles. Penn State's sport teams had a big year. They won 114 events--lost 53--tied 2 and gained 6 titles. The major league baseball teams have abandoned plans for their spring training in the South and far West. They will get in condition at home or pretty close to it. The major leagues are going to see that the service men don't have any trouble getting started playing ball as early as they wish next spring. They plan to send 36,000 balls, 9,000 bats and catching equipment to men in service. The past season the major and minor leagues raised \$133,359 for this purpose.

Ninety-three thousand spectators saw Frankie Sinkwich, the country's outstanding athlete, write a blazing final chapter to his collegiate football career. January 1 when he teamed with Charlie Trippi to give Georgia a 9-0 victory over University of California at Los Angeles in the Rose Bowl. Sinkwich, who has been nursing ankle injuries for some time, scored the only touchdown. The same day Boston College was beaten 37-21 by Alabama in the Orange Bowl. Before 62,000 the East nosed out the West 13-12--its first football triumph over the West in five years. Despite war-time traveling restrictions, an estimated 305,000 football fans watched the five New Year's Day Bowl games and the East-West Charity battle. Tennessee beat Tulsa 14-7 in the Sugar Bowl game. Texas won from Georgia Tech 14-7 in the Cotton Bowl.

Basketball is well under way. Kansas, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Duke, Washington State and University of Southern California are among the quintets which have recently played in Philadelphia. Penn has 21 games on its schedule. Red Ruffing was inducted into the army December 29. I believe he has been in big league baseball for nineteen years. He will be assigned to non-combatant tasks as he lost four toes from his left foot in a mining accident in Illinois when he was only 15.

Have you heard this one?

"Who goes there," said a guard on duty at Camp Meade.

"You wouldn't know me," said a voice in the dark. "I only came yesterday."

Vast changes have taken place both in secondary schools and colleges the past year. An almost miraculous transformation from a slow-moving peace program to a rapid, dynamic war curriculum has evolved. For the duration the program has been accelerated so that the institutions run on a 12-month basis, thus enabling students to finish their courses in three years or less. Many new war courses have been introduced. Physical fitness programs are being stressed. Two hundred thousand students are wearing Army or Navy uniforms, receiving basic or advanced training on the college campuses. The government pays the colleges for the use of the buildings and equipment. The Baldwin and McKean dormitories at Penn have recently been vacated by students to make room for 200 naval cadets. Temple expects a similar call upon its facilities. The Christmas holiday season at Penn was the shortest in years. The students returned to classes on December 28. Beginning February 3, all Philadelphia public high school pupils will be required to take war courses. Boys must take pre-induction courses, fitting them for the armed forces and the girls must take courses which will enable them to serve in war industry or other war effort on the home front. Almost 50% of all high school pupils are working after school hours. At West Philadelphia High 68% are working. Some seniors are being released now for employment in War Industries.

The Yellow Cab Company of Philadelphia recently hired five women drivers and two starters. They will work on the same salary level as the men they are replacing. They do not work later than 10 P.M. In order to be accepted they must have five years' driving experience and must successfully pass physical, intelligence and aptitude tests.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek arrived in the United States the last of November to enter an American hospital for treatment of a serious injury suffered several years ago while visiting one of the battle fronts. Upon the completion of her course of treatment, she will be a guest of President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House.

The Mummers had their traditional parade on New Year's Day--the last to be held for the duration of the war. Two hundred thousand persons witnessed the spectacle. Both the crowd and the participants were the smallest in years. Month after month we on the home front are learning of more priorities on substances and foods. We are learning ~~to use~~ foods more sparingly. Rationing of canned goods goes into effect in February. Butter, lard and fats are due to be rationed in the near future.

Private Norman Bailey of Duluth, Minnesota, recently telephoned headquarters at Camp Roberts, California, to report arrival of a shipment of wax. Word spread quickly--officers flocked to their barracks, straightened ties, collars, caps. Then they learned it was floor polish not WAACS that arrived. (Were any of you guilty?)

And now for some news of the church and our church family: The Pulpit Committee deserves a great deal of credit for the time and effort they are giving to secure a new pastor for us. I feel sure they have the prayers and good wishes of all the church members in the difficult task which faces them.

Beginning Sunday, December 6, Rev. George J. Christ assumed temporarily the pastoral duties of our church. Being a former pastor, he is very well known among our people and we are very happy to know that he and Mrs. Christ will be with us until a new pastor is secured. Mr. Christ will preach at each Sunday morning service and will conduct the Wednesday evening prayer meetings.

On Saturday afternoon, December 26, at four o'clock Jean Gehman became the bride of Wallace M. Folger, Jr., of Germantown. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Her sister, Mrs. Benjamin Fisher of Nashville, North Carolina, acted as matron of honor. The bridegroom is in the U. S. Army and is now stationed at Camp Davis, North Carolina.

Caroline Shelly spent the Christmas holidays with her parents. Colonel and Mrs. Edward Reber and family of West Point spent the holidays visiting Mrs. Reber's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eckfeldt. Julia Ann Eckfeldt also spent the Christmas holidays with her parents. Julia Ann was honored by the Wilson College Athletic Association for proficiency and sportsmanship during the hockey season. She was one of eleven girls named to the All-Wilson hockey team and was the only one to win the Third Honorary Certificate given to girls who have already won the "W" and the Wilson emblem. Mrs. Norman Keiebel fell recently and broke her wrist. Her friends wish her a speedy recovery.

Ensign and Mrs. "Andy" Dressler are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son. Mrs. Dressler is living with her mother in Germantown. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gillingham and son have recently moved to their new home in Moorestown, New Jersey. Nancy Walker, who is attending the American Academy of Dramatic Art in New York, spent the holidays with her parents. Mr. Arthur Nichols recently fell on the ice near his home and broke several ribs. At the present time, he is greatly improved and able to be out again. Bob Cassel recently spent a six-day furlough visiting his father and sisters. He is stationed with the Naval Reserve at Jacksonville, Fla.

Gloria Simpson's two pedigreed white collie dogs have joined the WAGS. Captain MacDuff and Silver Ace, brothers, were two years old on December 29. They were taken to the Erdenheim Kennels from where they will be sent either to Virginia or Nebraska for training. The national organization, "Dogs for Defense," trains dogs for war duties, including patrol of vital plants and sentry duty along the coast.

Raymond Aures has recently graduated from the Army Air Force Technical School, Keesler Field, Mississippi, and is now stationed in Inglewood, California. George Fortsch has been transferred to Miami Beach, Florida. Bill Little has been enjoying a ten-day furlough at his home. He has been selected for pilot training. Wilson MacIntire recently graduated from Radio School at Memphis, Tennessee. He has had two short furloughs during the past four weeks which he has spent with his parents. He has been promoted to Petty Officer 3rd Class. Upon his return to Norfolk, Virginia, after spending Christmas at home, he was called to active duty. He is now in a patrol bomber squadron where he will train for two months before assuming regular patrol duty. He will then be chief radio operator of the plane. Wilson reports splendid living conditions and says the officers are ace high. He is looking forward very much to his new experiences.

It was nice to see Bill Hayward taking part in church activities during the holidays. He recently graduated from the Eastern Signal Corps School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and was commissioned a second lieutenant. At the present time, he is attending school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he is studying in connection with his assignment for Signal Corps duty. Gordon Jervis enlisted in the Navy and left for training December 28. At the present time, he is stationed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Haddon arrived home from California on December 3. Although Mrs. Haddon is confined to her bed, she takes an active interest in all the church activities. She appreciates her wonderful friends and seems happy to be home again. She is very much interested in hearing and knowing about you folks in the service.

Bob Davis spent the Christmas holidays with his family in Ambler. He has been promoted to first lieutenant. George Cramer, who enlisted in the Marines on November 30 and is stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina, enjoys the military life very much. Quite an interesting fact was discovered one day when his drill instructor was handing out the mail. He looked at George closely and scrutinized his name on the envelope. He asked him if he had any relatives in the Marines and when George told him that his brother was a Marine and the instructor checked up on his appearance, stature, etc., the drill sergeant recalled that he had been Roy's instructor in San Diego. The plans for Roy to go to Lakehurst fell through. He was sent to Camp Elliott, San Diego, instead. A short time ago his parents were awakened by a telephone call in the middle of the night. It was a telegram from Roy, stating that he had a ten-day furlough, beginning December 29. Due to bad weather conditions, his plane was grounded in Chicago, so he came from there by train arriving home on December 31. He has lost twenty pounds but looks fine. He has done some very intensive training as a paratrooper and has many interesting stories to relate.

Harry Landis is stationed at Camp Maxey, Texas. Russell Bonigno is located at Camp Beale, California. Frank Ferla has arrived overseas. Aviation Cadet Robert I. Post of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was killed several weeks ago in a plane crash at Douglas Field, Georgia. He was a great nephew of Irvin M. Scheetz. Before his enlistment he lived with Mr. and Mrs. Scheetz for a few weeks, during which time he was active in the Young People's Society of our church.

The Young People's Society enjoyed a hayride-carol sing on Christmas eve from nine to twelve. There was the usual candle-light service Christmas morning at 7:15. Ned Eckfeldt was the speaker. Mrs. F. O. Hoyt, president of the King's Daughters' Circle was confined to her home during the Holiday Season with a severe attack of grippe and laryngitis. Her many friends are happy to know that she is now recovering rapidly and will soon be out again.

The members of the Sunday School, both children and adults, and their friends, had a very enjoyable evening on December 28 when Leroy Miller of the "Musical Clock" Radio program on station KYW was the special guest. He was most entertaining and spent one-half hour telling stories and amusing incidents in connection with his program.

Charles King spent the weekend of December 12 at his home. At that time he was stationed at Fort Meade, Maryland—he has since been transferred to Camp VanDorn, Mississippi. Frank is at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and Harold is stationed at the Atlanta Ordnance Base, Atlanta, Georgia. Harry Crockett, Jr. spent the holidays with his family. His youngest child has been seriously ill. He was in the hospital for seven weeks but is now home and on the road to recovery.

On January 4 I was thrilled to receive my first overseas letter. It was dated December 6 and written by Walter Dotts. He had just received our September letter and was very enthusiastic in his approval of our project.

I know you will be very glad to receive a message from Mr. Christ. He is sincerely interested in you. Many of you know him personally. He sends the following:

"Dear Boys:

"As the interim pastor of the Ambler Presbyterian Church, I have been asked to write to you all. No doubt many of us know one another from past association; however that may be, I am deeply interested in you all and appreciate that you, with others, represent us in the defense of principles which we as a nation hold so dear.

"Our good wishes and prayers are in your behalf and we hope that your lives may be spared, and in the destructive work in which you must engage, you will not neglect the constructive work of the soul.

"It is not going to profit either you or us, if we gain the victory and lose the soul values.

"As Christians we can face the future with the blessed assurance of the abiding presence of our Lord and Saviour, who gave His all in order that by faith in Him, we might have the fullness of life. Let us bring our cares and burdens to Him with the assurance that He ever careth for us.

"Chins up, boys, and believe what God has promised, 'as thy days so shall thy strength be.' The Lord bless you and keep you."

In His Name,

.(Signed) George J. Crist.

The King's Daughters and all your church friends extend to you best wishes for a hopeful and victorious New Year. We pray that the New Year will find us all more closely united in the bonds of Christian fellowship. May the coming year see the dawn of a brighter day for all mankind!

And now your Presbyterian Correspondent signs off until February, trusting that your New Year will be filled with many blessings--health, peace of mind and heart, close friendships, high purpose and the satisfaction of useful service.

Sincerely,

Helen R. Macomber

92 Bethlehem Pike
Ambler, Pennsylvania
February 16, 1943

Dear

Here it is time for our February letter and again we have lots of news for you. I am glad that many of you asked me not to carry out the threat I made a few months ago of sending shorter letters for whenever I hear a bit of news. I always feel that I must pass it on to you; consequently, each letter gains momentum and when finished is most voluminous.

Not long ago two ministers were discussing the process of sermon writing. "Now with me," said one of them, the only really hard things to manage are the introduction and the conclusion. You remember the sermon I preached at the installation of Brother So and So a short time ago? Well, I flattered myself that the exordium and the peroration of that sermon were pretty well done. Do you remember what you thought of them?" "Yes," said the other minister. "I remember thinking they were very good, but too far apart." We do not want you to feel that way about the introduction and conclusion of our "Newsletters."

I recall an incident which occurred during my school teaching career. One year in addition to my French classes I taught a group in Freshman English for a few weeks. During that short period I had some rare experiences and learned a great deal. One day while making a study of grammar, among other things we took up the comparison of adjectives. After having made what I supposed was a thorough study of same I asked one of the boys to compare the adjective feeble. He hesitated for several seconds and then in a slow, deliberate manner said: "Feeble -- More Feeble -- Helpless." At that time I was not particularly in sympathy with his line of thought but as the years have gone by, I have become more understanding and am better able to get his point of view, especially since I began writing the King's Daughters Newsletter. Trying to get all the incoming news condensed as much as possible without omitting anything of importance makes me feel feeble, more feeble and then helpless at times.

We are very grateful to Miss Kulp, head of the Commercial Department at the High School, and her students for their cooperation and splendid work in mimeographing our letters each month. Since September our mailing list has increased from 32 to 75.

The Annual High School dance will not be held this year. The committee has voted to cancel the dance for the duration. After the war plans will be made for a real homecoming for the Alumni. The Sophomores who are noted for their original parties, sponsored "The Snow Carnival" on the evening of January 29th. From all reports the dance was a big success. The Student Council is planning a St. Valentine's dance on February 12th.

Edith and Ruth Ann Frost, Eileen Urban, Claire Niblock, Agnes Rourke and Miss Elizabeth Slesman, their sponsor, represented Ambler at the Temple Forum recently. The theme for discussion was "Plans for a Post-War World Organization."

The Senior High School Orchestra is practicing faithfully each Tuesday afternoon in preparation for its annual assembly concert to be held on February 5th.

The Band Concert will be held on February 5th. The concert will be given in both assemblies.

E. C. Ramsey, world traveler and news commentator, received a hearty welcome from the students upon his return to Ambler to lecture about World War II. He related some very interesting experiences pertaining to his recent visit in Russia, Africa and the British Isles.

Charles J. Shearer, Ambler High School art instructor, has recently been elected vice-president of the Pennsylvania State Educational Association Council on Art.

The High School students have received a letter from the Ambler Defense Council thanking them for their splendid co-operation in the recent scrap drive. The students in the Ambler schools collected between 70 and 80 tons, totaling \$524.54. The High School students collected \$436.54 worth of metal.

The girls have started their tournament in intramural basketball. Gloria Simpson is captain of the varsity team. In spite of the lack of transportation the girls have a full schedule. They won their first two games defeating North Wales 12-9 and Hatboro 32-7.

Mr. Henry Schloeger, metal shop teacher, has returned to school after being in the hospital since November 30th. The students welcome his return.

"Quality Street" was given at the Navel Air Station at Hatboro soon after the Christmas vacation. The sailors were most enthusiastic in their applause and were very grateful to Miss Bork and her dramatic group for their excellent presentation. The students hope to return at a later date to give several one act plays.

On January 8th, Coach Henry's quintet was defeated by Lansdale 45-19. On January 12, Quakertown crushed Ambler 83-20. Three days later Ambler triumphed over Hatboro 47-6. Their next game was lost to Sellersville-Perkasie 42-27. On January 22 in the biggest upset of the current season, Ambler defeated Springfield 20-18. "Kenny" Haldeman and "Ed" Zerbenski were the high scorers. The Ambler Trojans defeated Jenkintown 30-26, Doylestown 32-26 and February 5th triumphed over Souderton 27-22.

Those of you who did not receive a copy of our first letter will be interested to know that the plan of sending a monthly newsletter to the members and friends of our church originated with Mrs. F. O. Hoyt, president of the King's Daughters Circle. All the members were most enthusiastic in supporting the plan. The wonderful letters we have received from you, who are in the service, testify to your approval of the idea. All the church members and many who have no direct affiliation with our church are very much interested in our project and are eager to do everything possible to continue the newsletters. Donations of various types have been made. Ralph Drew has donated practically all of the paper--others have given money--many contribute news items--some help by addressing the envelopes and others keep the files up to date. As our mailing list increases there are more and more details to be taken care of; and so, it is becoming a project in which many are participating and one in which all are interested.

Your interesting letters which are always so full of appreciation and encouragement are a source of inspiration and enable me to "carry on." Once more I should like to call your attention to the importance of keeping us informed of any change in rank or address. The newsletters will reach you more quickly if you will keep that in mind.

Now for the Local News: Mrs. William T. Patterson of Bethlehem Pike died suddenly at her winter home in Florida on January 15th. The marriage of Myrtle Morrell and Sergeant Ira Lentz of North Wales took place January 9th at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Ambler. Sergeant Lentz is stationed with the Army Air

Corps at Blythe, Cal. "Buck" Johnson has been transferred from Austin, Texas to Glendale, Cal.. He is with the Army Air Corps.

Charles Kemmerer, who was transferred from the Marine base at New River, N. C. to Newport, R. I. is studying electricity at the Navy base there. This is the first time that Marines and Navy men have studied together--there are approximately 3000 sailors and 300 marines at the base. The Marines were assigned hammocks like the sailors, but not being used to them, they did a lot of complaining. Finally when one of the Marines fell out and hurt himself the boys got double beds in which to sleep. The marines complained about the food, too, but all they got for that was K. P. duty. Evidently the traditional feud between the Navy and Marines still exists.

Malvin Clyde Shoemaker, 72, prominent Ambler resident died January 3rd. For 30 years he was chief engineer of the Keasbey and Mattison Co. He was a cousin of Admiral Harold R. Stark now serving with the U. S. Navy in London as Chief of Naval operations in foreign waters.

Ambler sponsored its fourth Community Night at the Stage Door Canteen on January 14.

Frank Poirce is the new president of the Kiwanis Club.

Thomas Benzenhafer has completed his recruit training at Bainbridge, Md. and has been advanced to seaman second class. He is now stationed at Memphis, Tenn. The family is well represented in the armed forces. Charles was drafted recently and left for New Cumberland, Pa. Philip is in the Army Medical Corps where he is an assistant office clerk. He is now located at Brigham, Utah. George is in the Marines--he is a technical sergeant and is stationed at Parris Island, S. C. He recently married a Southern girl.

Harry Dickinson has returned to Miami Beach, Fla. after spending a week's furlough with his parents.

Pauline Haff has returned home after spending 12 days in Albany, Ga. visiting her fiancé, Aviation Cadet Clifford Martin. He has since been transferred to Greenville, Miss. After he completes his training at Greenville he will complete the final phase of his training and receive his "wings."

William Ruth, Seaman second class is stationed at Bainbridge, Md. Mary Miesion and Robert Halligan were married January 2nd at the St. John's Lutheran Church. They spent their honeymoon in New York City.

Moses Lucas, who was inducted into the Army in November, is now located at Eglin Field, Fla. His father prophesies the War will soon be over since nothing that Moses gets into is of long duration. Sylvania Urbach and Pvt. James Buchanan were married on January 17th. The attendants were David McCool and Ella Urbach. Sylvania is employed at the Shelly confectionery store and James is stationed at Camp Pickett, Va.

Ensign Alexander Knight received his Wings at the Pensacola Field of the United States Navy, January 22nd. He entered the service in April, 1942. At special exercises in orphans' court, Norristown on January 27th, Ensign Knight was admitted to the Montgomery County Bar. His father, Judge Harold G. Knight, motioned for the admission of his son. Several years ago he served in the same capacity for his elder son, Lt. Harold G. Knight, Jr., who is training at Harvard University.

Lt. Carl Lorenz had the misfortune to break his leg soon after his arrival at Camp Peary. He is in the Norfolk Navy Hospital at Portsmouth, Va. A jeep side-

swiped him and threw him into a ditch. At the time of the accident he was recovering from a sprained ankle. In the bed next to him is a friendly young Catholic Priest who is also suffering from a broken leg caused by a jeep. The jeeps at Camp Peary must be unmanageable at times.

Earl R. Mattson is an instructor at Ft. Benning, Ga. He has recently been promoted to Captain. His wife the former Dorothy Deck, is with him.

Willbert Landis is a cook in the U. S. Army and is located in Alaska. Sonny Woodward, who enlisted in the Navy sometime ago, left January 7th and is now located at Sampson, N. Y. Heber Meyers is also at Sampson. I believe Sonny has seen him once since his arrival. Bob Anderson, Jr. is located on a south sea island in the Pacific.

Stanley Biggert, Jr. formerly of Ambler enlisted in the Navy January 11th. He is at Bainbridge, Md. He hopes to be an aerial gunner. His parents are now living at Gore, Va.

Ralph Davies has been promoted to Private First Class. He is in the Ordnance Dept. at Raritan Arsenal, N. J.

Winnie Stong is at Chanute Field, Ill. He celebrated his twenty-first birthday on January 29th. John Kayser has completed his recruit training at Bainbridge, Md. and has been advanced to seaman second class. He has been assigned to school at Portsmouth, Va. for further specialized training. P. F. C. Arnold Olsen was recently home on a 16 day furlough from California. Maurice Childs is in a camp hospital at Amarillo, Texas where he is suffering from a broken arm, in fact, it is broken in two places. It is a big disappointment to him because just before the accident he was granted a 12 day furlough which he expected to spend with his parents. Cadet Officer J. D. Dickinson has been appointed Lieutenant following his graduation from the 317th Army Air Forces Flying Training Detachment at Curtis Field, Texas.

Bobby Gates recently spent a few days with his family. He is now a Corporal and has been transferred from Washington to Great Falls, Montana.

"Joe" Hayward, who has been with Keasbey and Mattison Co. since his graduation from M. I. T. has been transferred from the St. Louis office to the Ambler plant and is residing with his Mother at 98 Bethlehem Pike. His cousin Elwood Godfrey, a lieutenant in the Navy, is serving on a Navy hospital ship somewhere in the Pacific. The January 11th issue of Life had a very interesting article about the ship and among others was a picture of Elwood which showed him reading a patient's X-rays in a special viewing machine. One of his recent patients was a boy from Doylestown. When the boy recovered enough to return to a hospital in this country, he wrote to his Mother in Doylestown and asked her to call Dr. Godfrey to deliver a message from Elwood. Staff Sergeant Bill Gray, who was hurt very badly in an automobile accident during the Christmas holidays, is improving at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. Although the injuries to his arm have not entirely cleared up, yet he will be able to continue to play in the Marine Band when he returns to his base. Much to his disgust, Joe Flury was found to be 11 pounds underweight when he took his physical examination for the army. He has already made up some of the weight so will probably be in the Army soon. Joe Lapetina is now overseas. Nelson Deck is stationed at Ft. Monroe, Va. He has been promoted to Corporal. His work is with the signal corps and he finds it most interesting. In October he married a Philadelphia girl. They live in Phoebus, a small town near Ft. Monroe.

There was a picture of Lieutenant John Brister in the January 20th issue of the Evening Bulletin. It was entitled "First Aid for Ambler Boy in Libyan Desert," and

showed his hand being dressed at an advanced British Red Cross base. Jack, with five other Americans joined the King's Royal Rifle Corps in July 1941. He graduated from Dartmouth the same year. Nine months after joining the Corps he won his commission. Another newspaper article referred to Brister as an Ambler Collegian who joined the British Army as a private and today is celebrating Britain's African triumph as an officer in one of the Empire's oldest regiments. His family have received word that he was wounded while taking part in the route of the Axis from Libya. At the present time he is in a hospital in Africa.

Joseph A. Rocco, writes that he is getting some wonderful training at Camp Sutton, N. C. where he is in the Quartermaster Corps. His brother Frank is overseas. Joseph Urban is located in Australia. Henry Barry is attending officers' Training School at Ft. McClellan, Ala. "Nick" Barry is at Camp White, Meaford, Oregon. Albert Dummeldinger, Musician first class U.S.N. is now stationed in Hawaii--his brother Walter is with the U. S. Army Air Forces at Chanute Field, Ill. and another brother William, who is in the Navy, is attending technical school at St. Louis, Mo. Among the Ambler boys who left for camp January 21st were David McCool, Donald Rorer, Donald Smith, Walter McCrork, William Miller, and Thomas Mullahy. Thomas "cCabe, Jr. is now enrolled as an aviation cadet in the Army Air Forces Pre-Flight School for pilots at Maxwell Field, Ala. Marshall Solliday recently graduated from the Army Air Forces Administration School, Miami Beach and has been commissioned a second lieutenant.

It is a small world after all. A few years ago while on a trip through the west we were on a sight seeing bus in Hollywood when someone tapped Mr. Macomber on the shoulder and said, "Mac, what in the world are you doing so far from home?" It was a very good friend of his from Elkins Park, Pa. and as a result of that accidental meeting we had two very pleasant days together, one of which was spent at Catalina Island. A few weeks later we were on our way to Victoria, B. C. from Seattle when we saw coming up the gangplank friends from our home town in Maine. We were never more surprised. After many ejaculations of amazement concerning this very unexpected meeting, we settled down and had a grand visit together all the way to Victoria. Later in the month when we were in British Columbia on our way to Lake Louise we stopped to talk to a young man and his companions who were riding in a car with a Massachusetts license. In the course of the conversation we were amazed to find that within the past hour we had each mailed a post card to a mutual friend in Wellesley, Mass. Every day I hear of incidents which verify the fact that the world is small. Truxton Deck's parents have just received their first letter from him since his arrival in Africa. He is a private first class and is with Co. B of the 20th Engineers. Soon after his arrival as he was standing in the "chow" line, he looked across and suddenly saw Johnny Ware standing in another line opposite him. Since then Johnny has written to his parents saying that he later saw Trux again at an amusement park. Andy Dressler writes that even though the Kaykakee has touched nothing but islands and island bases the past six months, yet he has met 7 boys from Ambler on ships of the Navy. I think that Ripley ought to know about some of these unusual coincidences for "Believe It or Not,"

On January 20th at the Immaculate Conception Rectory, Germantown, Miss Marie Dougherty became the bride of Henry D. Bussing, Jr. They spent their honeymoon in New York City. The wedding was a day late due to Henry's plane being grounded on the way home. His bride is a nurse at the Germantown Hospital. On January 25th his parents entertained 25 guests at a birthday dinner in his honor. Henry has returned to New Mexico where he will resume his duties in the Air Corps. His wife will join him later.

Victor Mitsch of Greenwood Ave. met with a very severe and painful accident at Cruse Kemper Co. on January 10th. His left hand was drawn through the roller of the machine on which he was working and was very badly crushed. It will be some time before he can work again.

Private Anthony Signore is stationed at Raritan Arsenal, Metuchen, N. J. Sergeant Edward Jensen has passed his examinations at Camp Campbell, Kentucky and is awaiting call to enter the Aviation Cadet School.

Oliver W. Burrell, 20 of Penlllyn died January 11th at Chestnut Hill Hospital after an illness of four months. You probably remember that he was an outstanding athlete at Ambler High School. He was a member of the track team during 1938, 1939 and 1940 and during the latter year was captain and star performer of the cross country team. On January 8, 1941 he met with an accident which necessitated the amputation of his right leg. He graduated with honors from Ambler High in the class of 1941.

John Cassidy, who is stationed at Camp Edwards, Mass. was home a few weeks ago. His brother Joe who is at Camp Cook, California came home the first of January for a 15 day furlough. The boys looked forward to seeing each other but their plans did not materialize. John was due to leave the day Joe expected to arrive. Due to terrible rains and severe weather the plane was forced down and Joe was obliged to finish the trip by train thus missing his brother by several days. Joe is now a lieutenant; while he was home his engagement to Miss Ida M. Shaeff was announced.

Corporal Newton Howard, U.S.A. has recently spent two week ends with his family. He is stationed at Camp Edwards, Mass. His brother Garwood is at Columbia, S. C. Philip Blank received a deferment so has not as yet been inducted into the Army. Howard Garritt is enrolled as an aviation cadet and is at Maxwell Field, Ala. Ralph Schwager is attending Radio and Ordnance School at Cherry Point, N. C.

Pvt. Robert Compton U.S.A. has arrived safely in North Africa. Donald Betts and Stewart Davis are with the U. S. Army Air Force at Miami Beach, Fla.

Dr. Robert D. Hershey, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church has resigned to accept a call to St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Glenside.

Bruce Hutt has been forced to give up his work at Ursinus due to a spinal injury received when he attended Prep School a few years ago. At the present time he is at home under medical care.

Ed Murphy surely looked grand in his uniform when he was home the week end of January 23rd. He enlisted in the Marines three years ago. He is now located at Quantico, Va. where he ~~will~~ graduated from Officers' Training School on February 10th.

353 Donors gave blood when the mobile blood donor unit of the American Red Cross visited Ambler for a second time on January 28, 29th and February 1st. Bob Davies and James Crewes, both survivors of the "U.S.S." were among the donors. Both boys have been at the Philadelphia Navy Yard for several months taking specialized courses. They left two weeks ago for the west coast where they will be assigned to ships. When the mobile unit of the Red Cross visited Ambler last July 428 persons donated blood.

John Troster has been transferred from England to Africa. Donald Roberts has completed his training at Bainbridge, Md. and has been sent to Great Lakes, Ill. for further training. He has been advanced to fireman third class. Cadet Ralph Bishop has graduated from the Aviation training school at Sheppard Field, Texas and has left for further training at an unknown base before leaving for overseas. Pvt. Nicholas Donato has graduated from the aviation mechanics' course at the Seymour Johnson Field Army Air Forces Technical Training Command, North Carolina. Bill Davis of Ambler Highlands was recently appointed a Naval Aviation Cadet and was transferred to the U. S. Naval Air Training Center at Pensacola, Fla.

Mr. James E. O'Brien of Forrest Ave. died suddenly on Monday, January 4th. He had been employed by the Keasbey and Mattison Co. for 44 years. He is survived by his wife and four children. Robert O'Brien, U. S. N. R. is now stationed at Miami, Fla.

Private Gordon Charlton has arrived safely in Canada. George J. Deens, of Butler Ave. left January 16th for the U. S. Naval Training Station at Norfolk, Va. He has been commissioned a Warrant officer in the Civil Engineer Corps. Richard Vaux died January 19th at his home Fatlands Farm, Three Tuns.

"Reds" Gear is stationed somewhere in the southwest Pacific. Ed Sage who enlisted in the Air Corps sometime ago left February 3rd to begin his training. Bill Huber left at the same time.

I should like to tell you more anecdotes but having the reputation of being a poor story teller and always missing the point, I refrain as much as possible. The following incident is a good illustration: Back in the days when I was in elementary school I heard a story which to me was very clever. John asked Jim if he had heard about their friend Al's death. Jim, very much surprised, replied "No, what happened?" John answered, "He was electrocuted--while walking down the street he stepped on a bun with a currant (current) in it." The next time my parents entertained at dinner, I decided that would be a fine opportunity to tell my story. I worked up to the climax beautifully and then my mind went blank. After being asked what happened I replied, "He was electrocuted--while walking down the street he stepped on a biscuit with a raisin in it." (Knowing my failings I know you will overlook the omission of anecdotes.)

Now for some Sport Jottings:

Paul Governali was named by the Philadelphia football men as the outstanding player of the year and received the Maxwell Award at a dinner given in his honor on January 12th. He was accompanied by his Coach Lou Little. Governali is in the Marine Reserves and goes into active duty upon his graduation from Columbia. Commander Tom Hamilton, head of the Navy's Pre-Flight physical fitness program told more than 200 guests at the banquet that athletes make the best soldiers, sailors and marines--a positive proof that athletics should comprise a major part of America's wartime educational program. He claims that what the boys learn in sports --the values of teamwork, how to stand up and take it, how to give it back in the face of fatigue--is standing them better now than any book learning. Lou Little backed up his argument. It looks as if sports would continue for the duration.

Clark D. Shaughnessy, the T-formation wizard, has been appointed head football coach at the University of Pittsburgh. He has been relieved of a 10 year coaching contract at Maryland which still had 9 years to run. Charles Bowser who has been head football coach at Pitt for 4 years is awaiting a call to a Navy Athletic Post. Shaughnessy is expected to get between \$10,000 and \$12,500 a year.

Army's Football Coach "Red" Blaik has been commissioned a lieutenant-colonel and for the present has been assigned to West Point. No doubt he will assume additional duties, but it is expected that he will remain primarily as football coach just as Captain John E. Whelchel has been retained at Annapolis. Both academics stressing the value of football training to future Army and Navy officers, have expressed the desire to carry on their rivalry through the war.

Many closely contested games in Basketball have been played in this area. On January 6 before a crowd of 17,500 at Madison Square Garden, New York University racked up its 8th successive basketball victory, defeating the previously unbeaten Penn State's Nittany Lions 49-40. That same date Temple nosed out Syracuse 45-44. 10,169 saw Penn State defeat Temple 38-29 and Rhode Island win over St. Joseph's 60-55--it was the fifth largest crowd ever to see a basketball program in Philadelphia. Basketball is having a big season. Not knowing how many of you are basketball fans, I think it is best to refrain from sending too many scores. Some of you will be glad to know that the Penn Charter Quintet

crushed Episcopal Academy 98-20 for its 22nd straight league triumph. The ban on pleasure driving is creating hardships, however, the majority of schools hope to finish out their campaigns.

With the exception of St. Louis' two clubs which may train anywhere in Missouri, Baseball Clubs will train in areas north of the Potomac and Ohio Rivers and east of the Mississippi in order to aid the war effort. The season will open April 20th and close October 3rd. They will retain their 154 game schedule. To further co-operate with the government and railroads they will select the least congested mode of travel during the regular season.

The Athletics will train in Wilmington. The Phils are considering Swarthmore College as their spring-training site. Gerry Nugent is enthusiastic about the facilities of the Field House there. The Yankees will go to Asbury Park, N. J. and the Giants to Lakewood, N. J. Casey Stengel, with 30 baseball seasons behind him looks to the opening of travel-restricted, war-rationed spring training with great zest. He says this will be one of baseball's most exciting years. He claims the caliber of baseball won't be as high--some will suffer more than others but the very uncertainty is going to add zip to the pennant races. Picking the winner is going to be tougher.

Joe Cronin has just taken up his new Red Cross job at Pearl Harbor. Jimney Foxx is going back to catching--it has been 7 years since he has done any serious catching. That was his last year with the Athletics. Since that time he has played first, third and in the outfield for the Red Sox. In 1932 he made 58 home runs, which is only two less than the Babe Ruth record of 60 in 1927. He might have broken Ruth's mark but broke his finger six weeks before the finish of the season and hit only 2 home runs in the final month. The Cub Boss, Jimmy Wilson hopes to boost Foxx to the front rank of hitters and pluggers once more. He has always been one of the finest, friendliest and most modest men in the game. In 1943 when he makes his second start as a catcher everyone connected with baseball hopes that it will be a successful one.

One of the finest father and son partnerships in the world of sports ended January 11th when Bob Feller's father died in Van Meter, Iowa. Bob, former Cleveland pitcher, now in the Navy arrived home in time to attend the funeral services on January 14th. He was married January 16th.

Gerry Nugent, president of the Phils, has traded Nick Etten to the Yankees for Ed Levy and Allen Gettel. In addition he received \$15,000 in cash. Red Ruffing, Yankees' pitcher, is now a private in a California army camp.

Pete Reiser has been accepted for service in the Army. The Dodgers have sent 15 men into the service--the Phils 17. The Athletics and White Sox boast the largest service flags in the American League, each with 19 of their number in the employ of Uncle Sam.

Now that Joe Di Maggio has his marital problems solved he has announced that he will give up baseball for the duration and enter the armed forces. He expects to join the ground crew of the Army Air Corps. When Joe Cronin, manager of the Red Sox heard that Di Maggio was entering the army, he said "I hope they keep him there at least four years after the war is over for the sake of the Red Sox. He's the greatest all-around ball player of all time."

The New York Yankees have sold Lefty Gomez to the Boston Braves. At the present time he is working in a defense plant at Lynn, Mass. Charging cruelty, Jimmie Foxx's wife has started divorce proceedings in Montgomery County Court. They live in Jenkintown and have two sons 13 and 6 years of age.

The three major league clubs in New York expect to staff Yankee Stadium, the Polo grounds and Ebbets Field with girl ushers this season.

Jimmy Wilson, manager of the Chicago Cubs is very enthusiastic about the purchase of Paul Derringer from the Cincinnati Reds. The Penn Relays will be staged on April 23rd and 24th.

A great deal of sports equipment is being produced but little of it is reaching the civilian population. 75% of all the equipment is going to the armed forces and men taking pre-induction training. Much of the equipment will not wear as well as that made in normal times. Bladders for footballs, basketballs, soccer and volley balls are being made of scrap or reclaimed rubber which lacks the resilience of new rubber. Wartime tennis balls don't have the old bounce. Science is preparing a plastic ball for the rubber-starved golfer. The newly developed pellet already has been put through exhaustive laboratory and field tests and has proven itself 90% as efficient as the present rubber. If it proves popular manufacturers claim it can be sold for as little as 15 cents.

Did you hear about the old man who was making his first visit to an army post? He watched two sentries passing and repassing each other in silence. After several minutes he stepped up to them as they were passing, and said: "Come now, boys, why not make up and be friends?"

Major General Edward Martin became Pennsylvania's new Governor on January 20th. It was a simple ceremony and for the first time in the state's recent history, was held indoors. The Governor's speech was the briefest inaugural address on record. He declared his grim determination that Pennsylvania's war effort must go on to victory and a long-range program be planned so that her returning soldiers will not become a lost generation. In that program he suggests highway improvements, flood control, stream purification and reforestation. Post-war dislocations after the last conflict caused great suffering so it is encouraging to know that General Martin is looking ahead to the future and has dedicated himself to the two great tasks confronting us today, winning the war and preparing for the peace to follow.

Americans are learning how to walk all over again. On Thursday, January 7th at noon all pleasure driving was forbidden by the Federal Government in the 17 Atlantic seaboard states and the District of Columbia. The drastic action was taken to conserve the dangerous dwindling gasoline supply. The results were immediately apparent in comparatively deserted streets, parking lots virtually bare of cars and a marked shrinkage in attendance at central city entertainment places. The Government also cut heavily fuel oil rations of non-residential consumers including schools, churches and places of amusement. In Philadelphia 95 parochial schools said they would have to close and many churches have made plans for doubling up their congregations. It is very evident that the Horse and Buggy Era is returning. In Washington Joseph E. Davies, former ambassador to Russia, is advertising for a coachman. Suburban restaurants are suffering as a result of the ban on pleasure driving. Those that are fairly close to means of transportation are struggling along but many of the others look lonely and forlorn during the dinner hour. Bala Inn on the Main Line has announced that its surrey will call for customers who live within a radius of a mile and a half and return them to the fireside after they have eaten and paid their bill. The proprietor hopes that horse-hauling the trade will mean a boom to business. A few weeks ago a pair of horses and buggy owned by Charles Taylor, Penllyn, raced crazily up Spring Garden St., Ambler, without a driver and damaged four parked automobiles.

The New Congress which assembled in Washington the first week of January has been named the Victory Congress by the leaders of both its parties. For in the two years in which this 78th Congress will function may come the end of the war. This was the hope of President Roosevelt in his annual "State of the Union" message on January 7th.

In the House of Representatives 208 Republicans now face 222 Democrats. On January 11th President Roosevelt presented to Congress and the Nation the largest war budget of all history. The amount exceeds 109 billion dollars. It not only dwarfs anything in history books but also represents more than the annual money expenditures of all the other belligerents on both sides of the war put together.

Crown Princess Juliana of the Netherlands gave birth to her third daughter, January 19th. The hospital suite was declared extra-territorial by the Dominion Government in order that the child need not be born on foreign soil. Temporarily there is a bit of Holland in Canada.

Alexander Woolcott, 56, widely known author and actor died January 23rd in New York. He collapsed from a heart attack while participating in a radio broadcast.

Ginger Rogers, 31, the auburn haired actress and Jack Briggs, 22, a Marine Corps private were married at the First Methodist Church of Pasadena on January 16th.

Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell, 86, president emeritus of Harvard University died January 6th. During his term of office which began in 1909 and ended in 1933, Dr. Lowell saw the enrollment of the University more than doubled and its endowment multiplied nearly six times to more than \$123,000,000. He had received honorary degrees from the leading institutions of America and Europe.

Major Eric Knight, with 34 others, was instantly killed in an air crash January 17th. The accident occurred off the coast of Dutch Guiana. Major Knight, 45, was a well known Philadelphia newspaperman and author, best known to the general public for his book "This Above All," recently made into a motion picture. His home was at Pleasant Valley, Bucks Co., five miles north of Quakertown.

Sergeant Johnny Bartok of Freehold, N. J., 23 year old soldier of the Army Air Forces, who spent 21 days with Captain Eddie Rickenbacker in a rubber raft after their plane was forced down in the South Pacific has decided to become a minister at the end of the war. "After what happened to us out there I've decided I'm going to become a minister," he said. "I feel I'm a true believer." He is not sure what denomination he will join. In the Evening Bulletin Eddie Rickenbacker's co-pilot has told the story in full of their fight for life during the three weeks they were left adrift on a raft in the Pacific. Among other things he tells how on the night of rescue "Rick" had said to Bartok "Better thank God for your Testament, son. You see now what faith can do for you." The co-pilot goes on to say "It was Bartok's khaki New Testament, zippered and waterproof that was one of our greatest sources of solace during the ordeal. It led us to prayer and prayer led us to safety. The tangible proof that prayer is answered, coupled with the two divine miracles I witnessed during our 21 days adrift redeemed me from agnosticism. They changed the entire course of my life." Very recently I read that the American Bible Society, Park Ave., New York City had announced that 20,000 copies of the New Testament, packaged in water-proof coverings would be placed aboard rafts and life boats on all vessels controlled by the War Shipping Administration.

At 10 P. M. Tuesday, January 26th it was announced on the radio in a nation wide hook up that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill had completed a 10 day conference at Casablanca, French Morocco. Defying every tradition, the President flew 5,000 miles of the Atlantic Ocean for the meeting. Never before has an American Chief Executive left the United States in war time. To Captain Louise Anderson of Denver, Col., a stenographer for Lt. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's Headquarters, goes the honor of being the only woman present at the conference. (With the President piling up 13,000 miles in 23 days, the First Lady has a formidable competitor)

Starting February 1st the new system of inducting selectees into all of the armed forces went into effect. It is the first time since the Civil War that men have been drafted into the Navy.

For the first time a class of West Point Cadets has been graduated in mid-winter. 409 received their diplomas and commissions and will very soon be assigned to active service. Contrary to tradition the ceremonies were brief, business like and greatly lacking in color and festivity. Rutgers University held its first mid-winter commencement in its 177 year history with ceremonies reduced to a minimum because of the war. Many other colleges have accelerated their programs to aid the war effort. On January 30th Princeton held its first midwinter graduation in its 196 year history. The American people have greatest admiration for those who have cheerfully supported the government by speeding up their college careers in order to get to the war jobs more quickly.

And now for news of the Church and our Church Family:

We were happily surprised on Sunday morning, January 31 to hear an announcement from the Pulpit Committee--since last July we have awaited that moment with greatest interest. Mr. B. Carter Millikin, Chairman announced that the Session on recommendation of the Pulpit Committee had invited Rev. Norman M. Dunsmore, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Shamokin, Pa., to preach in our church February 7th at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. On that date the church was filled with members who were most enthusiastic in their approval of Mr. Dunsmore. He is a young man who has done outstanding work in his present church. Mrs. Dunsmore is very charming and appears to be a very active church worker. Since Miss Kulp has to have my manuscript a week or 10 days before I send the newsletter I'll have to save the details for our March letter.

Râscoe Brady was one of 43 students placed on the Dean's list for the fall semester of the School of Chemistry and Physics at Penn State College.

Mr. Fred W. Eckfeldt was presented a "silver beaver" for Boy Scout work at the thirty-second annual banquet of the Valley Forge Council on January 9th at Temple University. He has been active in scout work since 1920. It is an honor which is bestowed on very few people. A short time ago Eddie Rickenbacker received a similar award. We are proud of Mr. Eckfeldt and congratulate him on his outstanding work with young men.

Arthur Nichols recently spent a 10 day furlough with his parents. He was graduated as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry at Ft. Benning, Ga. on January 11th.

Mrs. Theodore Henderson and family have moved to North Carolina to be with Dr. Henderson who is stationed at Ft. Bragg, N. C.

Corporal Clauduis William Haywood, the one member on our gold star honor roll, who was killed in the crash of an Army transport plane in W. Virginia in July, will be honored along with the 20 other soldiers who died in the crash, by an 11-foot granite monument, now being erected. The monument, which is believed to be one of the first memorials to grow out of the present war is being erected on the property of the Premier--Pocahontas Collieries Co. at Welch, West Virginia. The names, rank and home addresses of the victims will be inscribed on the stone.

Bill McKinney enlisted in the Navy and is now at the Naval Training School in Sampson, N. Y. Up to the time of his induction he was a student at Swarthmore College.

George Camburn left January 22nd for induction into the Army. At the present time he is stationed at Atlantic City.

Bob Broughton has completed his recruit training at Bainbridge and has been advanced to the rating of Seaman Second Class. He is now attending the aviation machinist's mate school at Jacksonville, Fla.

Harry Landis who enlisted in November reports that he likes army life and is treated very well. He has found his Scout training valuable. Harry is in the Field Artillery at Camp Maxey, Texas. He occasionally sees Robert Lutz who is in the Infantry at the same camp.

The many friends of Marie Fisher are happy to know that she is recovering from a serious illness.

We are always happy to see you folks in church. Bill Little, Harry Hutchison, Jr., Gordon Jervis, Arthur Nichols, Bob Broughton and Wilson MacIntire are among our recent visitors.

William Constantine, three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Constantine of Rosemary Ave. died suddenly, December 31st. Rev. Crist conducted the funeral services.

Oscar Stillwagon, Jr. recently spent a day at home before leaving for San Francisco where he will report for active duty. He graduated from the Advanced Radio Submarine School at New London and will now serve as a radio operator in submarines. He expects to be on duty somewhere in the Pacific.

Frank King has been transferred to Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. Sam Worthington, who is now a warrant officer, and Bill Pierson are at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. After Sam received our last letter he looked Bill up and they had a most enjoyable chat together. Knowing so many of the same Ambler people they found that they had much in common.

Jack, Sheldon and Charles Meyers are now on our mailing list. Sheldon is in Hawaii. Jack's headquarters are at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and Charles' post office address is Miami, Fla. I understand that Carl expects to be in the service in the near future.

Ida Berry is awaiting overseas duty and has been transferred from New Orleans, La. to Massachusetts. Her family recently spent a week end with her. She is a second lieutenant.

George Cramer likes being a "leatherneck." He has won 3 medals as an expert Marksman in the use of Pistol, Rifle and Sub-machine gun. His parents have recently learned that he was one of five to be chosen as an instructor on the Rifle Range. He will remain at Parris Island, S. C. Jack Schoenberg is at Camp Blanding, Fla. Albert Volpe who is now a Corporal has been transferred from Louisiana to Gainesville, Fla.

Andy Dressler, as I told you in another part of the letter, is somewhere in the Pacific. We are all anxious to know whom he has met from Ambler.

The Sunday School has accepted with regret the resignation of Claude Rohr as superintendent. For 15 years he has been an active and faithful leader in the various forms of Sunday School enterprises.

Mrs. Joseph D. Haddon passed away on Thursday, January 21st at 5:30 P. M. She had been in a critical condition since October when she arrived in California. She was happy to return to her home in Ft. Washington on December 3rd and even though she realized the seriousness of her illness, yet she outwardly made the best of the situation and greeted her friends with her usual smile and cheerfulness. Her death deprives the church of a powerful personality whose years of service endeared her to

all with whom she came in contact. She was a wonderful friend, kindly, sympathetic, generous and always helpful to those in need. The young people especially have cause to remember her with gratitude. To Mr. Haddon and her family we extend our sincere and deep sympathy. When I think of Mrs. Haddon the lines of Philip Brooks and Hugh Orr come to my mind " You surrender a dear friend at the call of Death, and out of his grave the real power of Friendship rises stronger and more eternal in your life."

"They are not dead who live
In hearts they leave behind.
In those whom they have blessed
They live a life again,
And shall live through the years
Eternal life, and grow
Each day more beautiful
As time declares their good,
Forgets the rest, and proves
Their Immortality."

Mr. B. Carter Millikin was elected president of the North Penn Community Center at the annual meeting held January 21st.

The First Presbyterian Hospitality House in this part of the country opened for enlisted service men on January 8th at Atlantic City. The 15 room frame building, formerly a rooming house, was dedicated January 7 at a dinner for chaplains, commanding officers of the Army Air Force training center and National leaders of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. who were holding a conference at that time. The center is modeled after one in Miami, Fla. It is equipped and furnished to create a homelike atmosphere.

J. Hampton Moore was home for 10 days around the beginning of the year. Since his return he has been transferred from Keesler Field, Miss. to Atlantic City. He is with the Army Air Corps.

Buddy Zeigler is in New Guinea. His Grandmother saw a picture of some boys from New Guinea pulling a jeep out of the mud and was sure one of them was Bud since it looked so much like him. She sent him the picture and he wrote back that it was not he and said in his division they would have rigged up something to pull the jeep out of the mud instead of using their own strength. He said they repaired everything from radios to washers and told how they found an old washer, renovated it and put it to good use.

Mrs. Mary Pullis was found dead in her home January 29. Death was apparently due to a heart condition. Mrs. Pullis was employed for many years in the home of the late Henry Biddle of Ambler.

Pvt. and Mrs. Herbert F. Hurt of Fort Washington are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter. Mrs. Hurt is the former Thelma Nice of Ambler. Pvt. Hurt has recently graduated from the Gulfport Field Army Air Forces Technical Training Command School, Miss. He is an airplane mechanic.

Gerry Davis has graduated from the aviation mechanics' course at the Seymour Johnson Field Army Air Forces Technical Training Command, N.C.

Although right now the winning of the war is our greatest objective, yet it is not too early to realize the need for post-war planning. Outstanding political, social and economic leaders in the country are already looking ahead to the post-war era and are planning a reorganized world, one which will guarantee freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of speech and religion to all other nations. The industrial world

is predicting most significant contributions to National and International Welfare in the world of tomorrow. Scientists and engineers have accomplished years of progress in a few short months and are eagerly awaiting the day when they can convert their war achievements into peacetime products which will benefit all humanity.

Those who are preparing the international post-war plans have a stupendous task before them. It has been said that winning the peace is going to be almost as difficult as winning the war. Never before has America needed the Christian Church more. The American people are leaning on it heavily both for moral and spiritual support. The Christian Church and American Democracy go hand in hand. There is no greater way to strengthen the American nation than to strengthen the church. The things for which the church stands are the things which will save America. Both God and Country need defenders. The experiences of Eddie Rickenbacker and his crew are proof that God will not fail us if we but trust in Him. As we go forward together during the coming days let us give generously of the best we possess to hold intact a Christian Democracy that will prove helpful to the whole world.

And now your Presbyterian Correspondent signs off until March with the words of Sir Wilfred Grenfell: "There is no Progress possible without Faith."

Sincerely,

Helen R. Macomber

92 Bethlehem Pike
Ambler, Pa.
March 26, 1943

Dear

Before the News Letter came into existence the months rolled by very slowly, however, since September they have passed by at a terrific speed and I have to keep alertly on guard for fear I shall miss one completely. I had a close call this month for I managed to obtain a copy of "We Took to the Woods" by Louise Dickinson Rich, a book which I have been very eager to read ever since it was published. To me it is most interesting because the scene is laid in northwestern Maine--a territory very familiar to me due to the fact that both my husband and I were born and brought up in that locality and with two exceptions have spent every summer^m that vicinity. City folk cannot fully appreciate the marvelous description but to a native it is perfect. Mrs. Rich, in charming simplicity, has painted a living picture of the Maine woods, a treasured retreat where cares and burdens are lifted from one's shoulders by the magic hand of nature. One can almost smell the fir balsam, the pine, the spruce and the description of the charm and beauty of the lakes, streams and forest expanses is most picturesque. There are many amusing incidents as the author unfolds the story of her life in the wilderness--it is a most refreshing story for it pictures an entirely new way of life in that Mrs. Rich and her family have found so much peace and contentment in simple things.

I am sorry I do not have space to mention some of the amusing incidents in the book which are so typical of that country and its inhabitants. It was especially interesting to me because it brought back so many treasured memories of our life in the woods. Each summer we spend ten weeks or so in one of the lake regions of Maine which is nestled in a valley surrounded by green clad mountains. It is far from civilization and to us the scenery is beyond compare. There are occasions when it is a relief to be far from the madding crowds. I remember one day when my son Dick was about three and a half years old, I looked out of the window and was astounded to see him take off his bathing suit on the boat dock, hang it on a bush, and start nonchalantly toward camp. As I rushed out of the door to reprimand him, he remarked in a casual manner: "Don't worry mother--no one saw me because I came in backwards." Such incidents make one appreciate the spaciousness and seclusion of the woods.

I wonder if most of us have not missed a great deal in life by living and moving at such a rapid pace that we have neglected many of the simple things which often bring much contentment and happiness. One thing has emerged out of this world chaos--that is a new awareness of our many blessings which heretofore have been taken for granted. It is my opinion that the ordinary things we have formerly overlooked, we are going to take time to enjoy and appreciate in the future. We shall use more ingenuity and ability in getting the most out of what we possess.

Most of us realize that we shall pay dearly for this ultimate victory, however, daily events show evidence that the tide is turning and the storm clouds are gradually scattering. A general spirit of optimism prevails. Every day events of far reaching importance are taking place which assure us that more and more spots of blue are appearing in the skies above. When finally we see the rainbow in the skies of peace, let's pledge ourselves to forget the past, begin life anew and take time to enjoy some of the finer things in life which we have been too busy for in the past.

Now for some High School news:

The 1943 Basketball season has drawn to a close. On February 12 the high school quintet lost to Lansdale 31-20. Quakertown defeated Ambler 44-8 on February 17. On the 20th Ambler handed Hatboro its fourteenth straight loss 29-18. They lost a 34-32 decision to Sell-Perk a few days later and on the 26th were defeated in a hard fought game by Springfield 25-16. In the last game of the season Jenkintown defeated Ambler 26-23. Quakertown High School won the 1943 title in the Bux-mont Basketball Conference.

It looks as if the 1943 yearbook would be the best ever. It will have a patriotic theme. The pages dividing the sections will be patriotically decorated and the cover will be red, white and blue. The names of the Alumni, who are in the armed services, will also be included. Much credit for the yearbook goes to Editor-in-chief Howard Albertson and Assistant Editor Helen Weller.

The Girls' Basketball Team chalked up its third straight victory when they defeated Upper Moreland 18-8. Nancy Brady was high scorer. Their winning streak was stopped by North Wales who defeated them 29-25, however, on February 23 they showed new fighting spirit and downed the Abington team 32-20. Nancy Brady led the scoring with 12 points.

The Library Club has started something new this year. The members are displaying new armbands designed by Mrs. Norman Jones, librarian. They are shaped like an open book with the initials A. H. S. and Student Librarian on them in the school colors, blue and gold.

The Band gave its annual concert on March 12. The members practiced diligently for many weeks in preparation for the event. It was a delightful entertainment and very well attended.

Miss Frances Barr received the degree of master of education at Temple University on February 15.

Aeronautics, radio, shop work, home nursing, first aid and canteen work have been added to the school program during the past year to give the students basic training in various fields of war work.

Big plans are being made for the Senior High play which is to be given on April 15 and 16. It is entitled "She's a Soldier's Sweetheart."

Before I give you the news of your Ambler friends I want to thank you for your very interesting letters. I wish I had time to answer each one personally. We are interested in all of you and are eager to keep in close touch with you always. Several have notified me of changes in rank and address which is a big help in keeping the files up to date. The King's Daughters and your church friends are very happy to know that the Monthly News Letter brings you so much enjoyment. We are just as interested to hear about you as you are to hear about friends at home so keep us posted. Our mailing list has increased to 90. Again I want to thank Miss Kulp and her students for their splendid cooperation. Ours is but one of many projects on which they are working so we are especially grateful for the grand piece of work they are doing.

Local News:

Elwood (Bud) Adams, Jr. has been transferred from the Technical School at Kearns, Utah to an Army Administration School at Bookings, S. D. Lieutenant John S. Berwind, Jr. has completed his course at the pre-flight training school at Santa Ana, California and has been transferred to the Army Air Forces Training School at Santa Maria, California.

Heber Meyers, naval chief Special Officer has returned to the United States Naval Training Station at Sampson, New York, after spending a few days with his parents. William Constabel left recently for service in the United States Navy. Paul Raser has completed a course as aviation mechanic in the Army Air Forces Technical Training School at Amarillo, Texas. David McKinnon has just completed the same course at Amarillo. Corporal Charles (Bud) Jones, assigned to the 101st Airdrome Division, 456th Parachute Infantry recently spent a furlough with his parents.

William (Bill) Ditter, Jr. of Ursinus College, was recently honored by gaining the distinction of being one of the ten seniors whose name appeared in the publication of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. He was selected for his qualities of character, scholarship, leadership and his potentialities for future usefulness to business and society. He is an outstanding student and plays a prominent part in all of the College activities. Daniel Bruder was recently promoted to Corporal. He is with the United States Signal Corps at Huntsville, Alabama. Harry Kelly, 3rd is now in the Army Air Corps where he expects to train for an aviation mechanic. Announcement has been made of the marriage of Mary Lou Davies to Lt. William Lancaster on February 9 at Las Vegas, Nevada. Lt. Lancaster is with the 333rd Special Service Engineers at Needles, California. Bob Coran and Bill Geddes are still together at Ocala, Florida. Both are "solo-ing" now. Jimmy Rainey has been transferred from Oklahoma to the west coast. He is in the Army Air Corps. Corporal Freddy Serral's mother has received word that he is resting somewhere on a Pacific Island after combat duty on Guadalcanal. He told his mother that he had been in the thick of battle, was now feeling better and was anxious to get out for another try. The engagement of Miss Elizabeth Robinson of Wyncote to Ensign Alexander Knight, U. S. N. R. has recently been announced. Arthur Rau has enlisted in the Naval Air Corps and expects to be called in the near future. While Dr. Lorenz was recuperating from his broken leg at Camp Peary, Magruder, Va., Mrs. Roosevelt visited the hospital to call on the patients. She had just christened a boat at the near-by Navy Yard. As she visited each patient she inquired what battle he had been in and where he had been hurt. When she came to Dr. Lorenz he had to explain that he was injured in a Virginia fox-hole. Mary Dickinson has enlisted in the WAVES and will leave for training at Hunter College on March 26. It looks as though Vera Haff would not leave for overseas in the near future. She was very anxious to go so is disappointed to have been assigned a definite nursing position at Ft. Kilmer, New Jersey. Earl Dinnell, who is stationed in the South Sea Islands has been promoted to private first class. Ralph Mascola has been promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. He recently graduated from the Bombing and Gunnery School at Wendover Field, Utah. John Troster writes that he is well and that conditions in North Africa are very interesting. Bill Weir is now stationed at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, in the Engineering Division. P. F. C. Garwood Howard has returned to the Columbia Air Base, South Carolina, after spending ten days with his family and friends. His brother Newton was fortunate in spending a week end at home during Garwood's visit. Newton is a Corporal in the army and is located at Camp Edwards, Massachusetts.

Aviation Cadet Clifford Martin, Jr. and Miss Pauline Haff were married in the post chapel at Greenville, Mississippi, on Friday, February 26 at 7 P.M. Mrs. Charles Haff, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Martin, Sr. attended the wedding which had been arranged to be as homelike as possible. The Army Chaplain who performed the ceremony, arranged for a young lady of his acquaintance to play the organ and one of the cadets sang. Pictures were taken of the bridal party. All of his buddies attended the service. A few days later he was transferred to Craig Field, Alabama, to complete his course in flying--he expects to receive his wings in the near future. Pauline is living near the camp. Tom Weaver, who was inducted into the Army in July, 1941, has been stationed in Hawaii since Pearl Harbor. He calls Hawaii God's country since it abounds with sunshine and beautiful skies all day long. (If it ever rains he fails to write home about it.) Tom is working with a Chaplain of the 27th Division.

Robert Redington, who is in the Army is located at Camp Lee, Virginia. Franklin Pledge has been transferred from Parris Island, S. C. to Quantico, Virginia. Eugene (Jeep) Willis is stationed at Atlantic City and is in the Army Air Corps.

Mr. Frank W. Worth, vice-president of the Ambler Trust Company, died suddenly March 7. P. F. C. Donald Stillwagon has been reported missing in action in North Africa. The engagement of Miss Floy Hoffer and Willis H. Ware has been announced. George D. Pursell of Ft. Washington has received a commission of second lieutenant in the Air Forces of the U. S. Army. Over 500 "refresher" kits have been given to selective service men leaving Ambler for induction into the armed services. They were first distributed May 8, 1942. Mrs. Maurice Allen of Forrest Avenue celebrated her 87th birthday on March 6th. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond H. Miley are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son on March 4. Mrs. Miley is the former Peggy Amy of Ft. Washington. Joseph Niblock has begun his training as a bombardier cadet. He is located at Big Spring, Texas. Corporal Philip Benzenhafer, U. S. A. and Miss Emma Eleanor Smith of Ft. Washington were married March 8th. Corporal Benzenhafer is serving with the Medical Corps and is stationed at the 34th General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah. On March 4th Miss Flora Schlater became the bride of Francis Gray of Gwynedd Valley. Sergeant William Gray U. S. Marine Corps acted as best man for his brother. The couple will reside in Lansdale.

W. O. George J. Doens, who is stationed at Camp Peary, Virginia, recently spent several days with his family. Lt. (jg) E. Thomas Potts has returned to his naval training station in California after spending a 10 day furlough at his home. Sergeant John (Mickey) McFadden, Richard Johnson and Seaman First Class John Ambers have recently visited their families. Mickey is at Hendricks Field, Fla., Richard at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, and John is at Bainbridge, Maryland. P. F. C. John Fluck has been transferred from Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, to Camp Gordon, Virginia. Bob Simpson left March 4th for training as an aviation cadet with the U. S. Naval Reserve at the University of Pennsylvania.

Ambler is very proud of its men and women who are serving the United States in the armed forces and on February 20 dedicated a service flag in their honor. More than 1200 persons attended the exercises in the Ambler Opera House. Judge William Dannenhower gave the address of the afternoon. He was introduced by Judge Harold G. Knight, who presided at the dedication exercises. The Ambler High School Band furnished the music for the affair. The flag was unfurled in honor of 375 men and women. The flag, six by ten feet, has a white ground with a red border. There is a large blue star in the white field bearing the numerals 375. The numerals will be changed as the number joining the armed forces changes. There are two gold stars in the white ground for Claudius W. Haywood, 3rd and Kenneth T. Heywood who gave their lives. The flag is flying in front of the Wissahickon Fire Company Hall. A permanent honor roll will be erected in the near future on the grounds adjoining the Post Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Maxson are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son, February 12. Private Walter Gouak, who is stationed at Camp Polk, La., recently spent a 15 day furlough with his parents. Walter Dummeldinger, who recently graduated from the teletype school at Chanute Field, Illinois, has been made an instructor there. Jack Meyers has returned to this country from North Africa after serving on convoy duty. The marriage of Miss Mildred Kurtz of Conshohocken and Daniel J. Stone of Highland Avenue, Ambler, took place February 13th. Thomas Gibbs, who enlisted in 1940 is in the Army Air Corps stationed in the Canal Zone. He is now a Staff Sergeant. His step brother, David Hawkes, who enlisted in November 1942 with the Army Tank Division, is training at Camp Barkley, Texas. Donald Roberts is stationed at the Great Lakes Training Station as Machinist's mate. Following this course he will be eligible for advancement to a third class petty officer's rating.

Dick Slayton, who enlisted in the Army Air Corps, left for Miami Beach, Florida, on February 24. Dick has been studying pharmacy at Temple University and expected to graduate in October. Three of his classmates left with him so the Dean excused the entire class of 64 boys and girls to see them off. They sang their Alma Mater song and gave cheers all of which added much to the impressiveness of the occasion. Dick likes very much--I believe that his only complaint is having to arise at 4:45 A.M.

The Young Women's Bible Class of the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church, with Mrs. Raymond Maxson, sponsor and editor, is now sending a Weekly News Letter to its members who are in the armed forces. We wish them much success in their undertaking. Mr. Russell Byerley of Lower Merion High School, sends a monthly News Letter to the Alumni of the school who are in the service. A year ago he began by sending 25 letters--he now sends the letter to over 1200 service men and women. He is doing a marvelous piece of work.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hanson are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter. Walter Pearce, who is stationed at Camp Phillips, Kansas, has been promoted to Corporal. He is assisting the Protestant Chaplain on the Post. Sergeant Walter Burk is located in New England. Terrance P. Cassidy has been transferred to the Naval Air Training Center at Pensacola, Florida. Dr. Robert R. Smith, a former Ambler physician, who is now a lieutenant in the U. S. Army Medical Corps, has been transferred from Texas to the Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City.

Ambler Night continues to roll around once a month at the Stage Door Canteen in Philadelphia. We hope that you are receiving the same attention in other canteens that the boys receive here. On Ambler Night members in the community donate enough food, milk and money to take care of the refreshments of approximately 1300 boys. French sailors from the "Montcalm" and our boys from the "Boise" have been very enthusiastic over the hospitality of the Canteen. On March 5th the Chaplain of the U. S. S. Boise arranged a party for 600 of the crew, their wives and sweethearts. It was held at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. The boys provided the food and the food hostesses at the recreation center served it canteen style. Mrs. J. R. Simpson Jr. was honored by being chosen to serve as one of the hostesses. Several French and English sailors were guests. Recently Gloria Simpson received a letter from one of the French sailors inviting her to "the cinema, roller skating on the promenade." They are learning American expressions very rapidly. "Norty" Wiesner's parents have received word that he is in North Africa. He says he is well and his parents should not worry but adds that life is very exciting there. Mrs. Hollings received a cable from Dave the 21st of February--it is the first word she has received since November. Although he did not say where he was located yet, he stated that he had been receiving letters from home. He is still looking for his Christmas package. He is well and expects to be home for a visit soon. Jimmy Corson, who volunteered in the Naval Air Corps in November, left for service March 12th. Francis Erhardt, Henry Hopwood, Claude Rawlins and Anthony Forte are among the recent inductees. Lambert West is now stationed at San Francisco, Cal. Bobby Gates has recently been transferred back to Washington from Great Falls, Montana. Harley Smith is located at Sioux Falls Air Base, South Dakota. Felix Ireland was graduated from John Hopkins University on February 13 in its first mid year commencement necessitated by an accelerated wartime program. Arthur Hanson, Norman Urbach, Kenneth West and Dudley Dock are among those who have recently entered the armed services. Dudley is at Camp Lee, Virginia. He and Ted Dailey, who also is there, manage to see quite a lot of each other. Ted has just won a medal as an expert marksman in the use of a rifle. John (Bud) Dailey is at the Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Sam is at Westover Field, Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts. Pvt. Harvey K. Wittman is located at Camp Blanding, Florida. P. F. C. William Costello, who is stationed at Camp Edwards, Massachusetts, recently spent a week end at his home. Ralph Davies has been transferred to Camp Cook, Virginia. Corporal James Macort, has been made an instructor in the Radio School at Camp David, N. C.

Sonny Woodward was home from Sampson, N. Y., the first week of March. He is enjoying his basic training in the Navy and hopes to become a machinist's mate. On March 4th Mr. J. William Ditter rounded out ten consecutive years in Washington as Congressman from the seventeenth District. P. F. C. Felix Zollo, who is in the infantry is located at Camp Menlo, N. C. His brother Patsy who is at Miami Beach, Florida, is a mechanic in the Army Air Corps. The boys at the Hatboro Naval Training Station take stock of their wearing apparel each Sunday evening and every Monday a group of ladies from the Colony Club takes care of all their worries concerning buttons, mending and darning. The service is greatly appreciated. The engagement of Miss Catherine Weikel of Line Lexington and Harold L. Moore, Jr. of Springhouse has been announced. Miss Mary Louise Allen, a student at Bucknell University recently spent a week end with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. James Lacey. Mrs. Lacey spends several days each week as a nurse's aide in the various hospitals of Philadelphia. Lester Jones of Camp Holabird, Maryland, has been promoted to Corporal technician.

The Girl Scouts have been sponsoring a salvage campaign which has been most successful. Their headquarters are in the store formerly occupied by Mitsch's Bakery. On the opening date the girls collected 125 pounds of fat, the proceeds of which were turned over to the U. S. O. Division of the war chest. Proceeds from the waste fat the next three Saturdays were given to the Red Cross Fund. In addition to fats they collect tin cans, fur coats, rubber, scrapmetal, wool, silk or nylon hose. They really deserve a great deal of credit for the way in which they are aiding the war effort.

Mr. Gernard F. Meyers died suddenly March 12th after suffering a heart attack. Ed. Sage, Bill Huber, Stewart Davis and George Brumbaugh left February 3 to enter the aviation school at Miami Beach. Ed is now stationed at Clemson, S. C. and Stewart has been transferred to Gainesville, Florida. Donald Betts is now located at Sinn College, Cleveland, Ohio. Ray Aures recently received his silver wings at the Army Air Forces Gunnery School, Tyndall Field, Florida. He has been promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. He returned to Columbia, S. C., on March 10 after spending a ten day furlough with his mother. Bill Sabold, who entered the armed forces on June 4, has been in four different camps during the past eight months. He is now stationed at Camp Pickett, Virginia. Dr. Frederick Bristor has received word that his son Jack has left a base hospital somewhere in Africa for the second time. He has been wounded on two different occasions. Mr. John Benzenhafer died at his home on February 28th. Four of his five sons are in the armed forces.

Have you heard this one:

Medical Examiner: "Ever have any trouble with dyspepsia?"

Recruit: "Only once--when I tried to spell it."

Philadelphia Baseball fans are taking a new lease on life since William D. Cox, New York lumber company executive and his syndicate have become the new owners of the Phillies. The fans feel that although Mr. Cox will not put the Phils in first place by May, nor will he win the pennant by August, yet he will put forth a sincere effort to improve the club. Bucky Harris has been named manager of the Phillies. Harris, father of three children, is also a brother-in-law of Major General Richard Sutherland, Chief of Staff to General Douglas MacArthur. Harris resigned as manager of the Washington Senators September 26, 1942. Hans Lobert, 1942 manager of the Phils has been appointed coach of the Cincinnati Reds. The Phillies will train at Hershey, Pa. Leo Durocher will retain his position as manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers since he failed to pass his physical examination for the army. He was turned down because of a perforated ear drum.

The latest news is that Jimmy Foxx will retire from baseball. His loss will upset manager Jimmy Wilson's catching plans for the Chicago Cubs as he had intended to make Foxx the first string catcher.

Foxx is employed as salesman for a New York oil firm and feels that this is a good time for him to quit as he is about at the end of his rope and better stop while he has a good job. Joe DiMaggio has started his training under a new manager--Uncle Sam. He has been assigned to duty at the Air Forces West Coast Training Center at Santa Ana, California.

Athletic programs for American soldiers in England are being shaped with the idea that if war conditions permit, a United Nations Military Olympics may be held this summer. Plans still are tentative and approval of the high military commanders will be needed before definite steps can be taken to hold the largest international sports carnival since the last Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936. Present discussion visualizes soldiers of at least nine nations participating in ten sports stressing competition essential for the physical conditioning of fighting men. "Whitey" Kurowski, hero of the 1942 World Series for the St. Louis Cardinals, failed to pass his army physical examination because of a bone infection which had left him with a crippled arm since his youth.

Dartmouth clinched its sixth straight league championship on March 10th when its basketball team defeated Penn 70-34. Princeton won second place. I believe Cornell is tying Penn for third place.

Gundar Haegg, the flying fireman from Sweden, who recently smashed nine world track records within three months will race in the U. S. this summer. He will compete against such men as Gil Dodds and Earl Mitchell in the shorter distances and against Greg Rice over the longer routes.

On February 21st, The Western Conference lifted its 39 year ban and voted to allow freshmen to participate in varsity competition--effective with the spring sports season. It also amended its rules so that service men who are getting schooling at member universities may play on varsity sports squads. The change in the rule means that freshmen and service men will be available for football next fall, thus virtually assuring the conference a full grid season.

Cornell has announced that ten of its football players have been called to war. Penn has lost 27 players who in normal times would be candidates for the football team next fall.

After reading the following I think you will agree that in the future we should follow our guide books more carefully:

Wife: "What has happened, George?"

George: "A puncture!"

Wife: "You should have been more careful. The guide book warned us there was a fork in the road at this point."

Prices are soaring these days. A doctor having painted a patient's throat for tonsillitis was asked what the fee would be.

"Five dollars, please."

"Five dollars!" exclaimed the patient, "why last week I had my whole kitchen painted for four-fifty."

The need for factory workers in the Philadelphia district is reaching such a critical point that in the next ten months industrial plants in this city will be forced to seek the services of more than 84,000 women. Miss Elizabeth Johns of Philadelphia is the first woman to start a job as "trainman" in this vicinity. She and two other women are now working on the Paoli local. Twenty-seven others expect to start soon and will replace men who have gone into the armed forces. Their uniform consists of a blue coat with P.R.R. insignia on the lapels, plain blue skirts, white shirts, four-in-hand black ties and blue "trainman's type" hats.

A topcoat similar to their male confreres completes the outfit. Women will be placed on suburban trains and the Baltimore and Harrisburg locals. Their duties will be to collect tickets, help passengers on and off, call stations, check signals and switches.

281 colleges have been approved for Army and Navy training. Seven Pennsylvania institutions were approved for the training of War Department engineers; ten for Army aviation cadets and five for Navy engineers. Temple University was the only large Pennsylvania institution of higher learning not included in the initial list. One of the largest Army general hospitals in the country, begun nine months ago, is now open at Valley Forge. When in full operation its 100 buildings, connected by corridors and ramps, will be staffed by 100 officers including 60 physicians, 160 nurses, nearly 1000 enlisted men and units of M. C. S. and M. P.'s. So vast are its accommodations, it requires two hours to walk through all the buildings. The buildings are of brick, mostly two stories and cover 180 acres near George Washington's encampment at Valley Forge. It will receive soldier patients from camps throughout the U. S. and casualty centers overseas.

Mrs. Harry Houdini, wife of the famous magician and, in later life, a spiritualist, died February 12. She waited ten years in vain for a spirit message from her husband and disclosed in a recent interview that she had grown to doubt immortality and long ago gave up the hope of communication after death.

Five public schools in Philadelphia have qualified to have their names on U.S. Army bombers by selling more than \$175,000 worth of bonds in each institution.

Schools were closed from February 23rd to 26th in order that the teachers might assist with the registration for War Ration Book Number two. Shoe Rationing came as a big surprise on February 7th. Each person is now allowed three pairs of shoes per year. Housewives are gradually becoming accustomed to the point system. One has to be a good mathematician to stretch ration points and yet plan meals of proper food value. Rationing of meat, butter and cheese will begin April 1st. In a few months civilians have learned to live in houses registering 60° or less and like it. Not long ago one of the King's Daughters told me that for some unknown reason the temperature in her home suddenly jumped from the usual 55° to 63° and as a result the whole family suffered an attack of prickly heat.

According to reports 720,000 new baseballs are being made of the left-over insides of golf balls that have been waiting for something to do since the golf ball industry was stymied by the war. The new baseballs will have rubber-cushioned centers and the War Production Board gives its word they'll not be duds.

J. P. Morgan, 75 died March 13th at Boca Grande, Florida, where he had gone for a vacation. His name was synonymous with Wall Street. It represented wealth and banking. Throughout his lifetime many honors were conferred upon him for his work on behalf of governments and for his interest in philanthropy and education.

Great Britain's Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden made a surprise visit to Washington the middle of this month. His arrival did not thrill the American people unduly as they have now become accustomed to the spectacle of Presidents and Prime Ministers flitting about from continent to continent.

Everything points toward Wendell Willkie as the Republican Presidential candidate for 1944.

James Cagney and Greer Garson received the Motion Picture Academy's awards for the best film performances of 1942. Cagney's award was for his role in "Yankee Doodle Dandy" and Miss Garson's for her performance in Mrs. Miniver.

It is estimated in the Commerce Department at Washington that the war cost of all the belligerent nations will be 500 billions (half a trillion) by the end of the present year.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek arrived in Washington February 17th for an official visit. She was met at the station by both President and Mrs. Roosevelt. No visitor ever received a greater welcome than she throughout her two week's stay in the Nation's Capitol. She is a great and cultured lady--a woman of charm, intelligence, wit, good sense and a most eloquent speaker. She expects to make a tour of the Nation (if her health permits) speaking on behalf of Chinese war relief. The address she made to Congress made Washington more aware of China than at anytime in history.

Next comes the News of the Church and our Church Family:

Mr. Frank C. Weber, secretary of the Ambler Building and Loan Association, retired from that position last month after 40 years of valued service to the organization. Mr. William Faust will succeed Mr. Weber.

We were glad to see Bob Cassal in church on February 28th--he had put on weight and looked in the best of health. He returned to Jacksonville, Florida, on March 2 after spending ten days with his father and family. Gordon Jervis has been promoted to Seaman second class. He is still located at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. His cousin Bob Jervis has recently been promoted to Lieutenant (jg). Hugh Bullard and Dick Rohman recently entered the armed forces. Hugh is in the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command and is stationed at Miami Beach, Florida.

Harold King has finished his course in mechanized motors at Atlanta, Georgia, and has been transferred to Brookley Field, Mobile, Alabama, for his basic training. He and Charles, who is in Mississippi, hope some week end soon to arrange a central meeting point somewhere in the south, where they can have a real reunion. Frank is playing the trumpet in the Eighth Division Band at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Second Lieutenant Ida Berry has arrived safely overseas. Ida Hoyt, who is a laboratory technician in the Phoenixville Hospital, spent a week end at home recently. Pvt. George Camburn who has been critically ill is now recovering at a hospital in Atlantic City. Edwin McGee Smith, 30 year old chief Petty officer of the U. S. Coast Guard has been reported missing in action. He is the son of Mrs. John Smith of Ft. Washington. Lt. Bob Davis spent the week end of February 21st with his family. George Cramer states that at the little town of Beaufort, just outside Parris Island the Marine situation at the U. S. O. is very bad. There are 40 Marines to one girl. Evidently that is one place where the Marines do not have the situation well in hand. We want to congratulate Gorry Davis, Alfred Martin, Jack Schoenberg, Bill Pierson and George Cramer who are celebrating their birthdays this month. Mrs. Harry Rishel met with a very painful accident on March 10th when she was struck by an automobile on Market Street, Philadelphia. I understand that in addition to other injuries, her leg was broken in four or five places.

It was nice to see Roscoe Smith U. S. N. in church on Sunday, February 28th. He was accompanied by his friend Miss Eleanor Colquhoun, a WAVE--Yeoman 3rd class, who is now in the Recruiting Service and stationed at ^{the} Widener Bldg., Philadelphia. Her home is in Middletown, Pennsylvania--her picture has appeared in The Evening Bulletin on several occasions the past few weeks. Roscoe is still stationed at the Navy Yard--his rating is that of Pharmacist second class.

Lt. Colonel Edward Reber of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point has been transferred to Leavenworth, Kansas. Mrs. Reber, the former Betty Eckfeldt, and three children will move to Ambler in the very near future where they will reside for the duration.

On March 8th I added another letter to my overseas collection. It was dated February 12th and came from Buddy Ziegler, who is in New Guinea. He had received the first three News Letters and was anxiously awaiting a copy of the fourth. I can well imagine that home town news looks good to one so far away. He smiled when he read in one of our earlier letters about a Buddy Ziegler enjoying life in New Zealand--it seems that he has been in Australia but not in New Zealand. I am going to quote one paragraph from his letter:

"As for my army career, I graduated from two radio schools in the States and am following along the same line of work over here. We operate, keep in repair and set up just about everything you can think of that has a piece of wire in it and uses electricity. A great deal of this equipment was not covered in our school course, so as most other boys here under these circumstances, we have to use our own ingenuity for our only resources. You might pass that on to a few of the fellows who think they're going to learn it all in a couple of fortnights at school back home, and tell them the knowledge they'll need most is what their instructor leads them to believe they'll need least."

According to Bud, New Guinea is a beautiful South Sea Island just as one sees it in the movies--the temperature hovers around 120°. Evidently the native dancers are not as numerous in reality as on the screen for he has yet to see his first female on the isle.

We were sorry to hear that Sam Worthington was stricken with scarlet fever on February 25th and forced to sojourn in the hospital until March 18th. It is rather a strange coincidence that on February 25, 1921, just 22 years ago to a day, he came down with the same disease.

Bill McKinney is receiving his basic training in the Navy at Sampson, New York. He is hoping to get into a radio school in the near future. In a recent letter he stated the temperature had been down to 41° below zero. It is too bad he and Bud Ziegler can't even things up a bit.

Jack Schoenbery is at Camp Blanding, Florida. His basic training period was spent in the Military Police Platoon. Since he did not like that work too well, he is glad to have been transferred to the Division Headquarters where he is working as typist clerk in the Adjutant General's Office of the 30th Division. He works from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. and after that his time is his own. The last I knew he planned to get in touch with Bob Cassel at Jacksonville. No doubt by now he, Bob C. and Bob Broughton have had a visit together.

The Ambler Presbyterian ping pong team downed the K & M team 10 to 8 in a recent match. The church was represented by Teddy Schaufliker, Dick Schuler, Harvey Heath, W. Rile, H. Bertoff, James Snyder, E. Wolf and William Albertson.

We were glad to see Gerry Davis in church on March 14th. He looked to be in the best of health. He has been fortunate in getting home every week and since he was transferred to Maryland a month ago. He expects to be moved again in the near future.

The Girl Scouts of Ambler Troops 108 and 232 commemorated the founding of their organization by attending, as a group, the morning service at our church on March 14th.

On February 8th a congregational meeting was held to consider the election of a new pastor. Mr. Millikin, as chairman of the Pulpit Committee, gave an excellent and most interesting report at that meeting. I felt that those of you who were members of the Presbyterian church would be glad to hear some of the details so I asked Mr. Millikin to give you some of the highlights of same. He sends the following:

"You folks may be interested to know a little about how the Pulpit Committee worked. On July 22, 1942 the Congregation elected us--Mrs. N. R. Kriebel and Miss Lorna Luttgen representing the women, Miss Josephine Little representing the young people, Ralph H. Drew and W. E. McKinney, Trustees and Fred W. Eckfeldt and B. Carter Millikin, Elders. We settled immediately to our job after agreeing that we would bring no candidate to the congregation until we were 100% unanimous. Some job for that committee! Each of us had to be convinced. We met 23 times, we considered more than 70 names--we were actually in the field 24 Sundays hearing 19 men preach and examining their work in their own churches. Fortunately the ration board gave us a special gas allowance or we could not have done our work.

From our first hearing, Mr. Dunsmore appealed to us all. The more we learned of his past work and experience, and the more we saw of him and Mrs. Dunsmore, the more certain we felt that we had found the man to lead our church forward. The Sunday he preached as our candidate he won everyone, young and old. The vote for him in the Congregational Meeting was enthusiastic.

Mr. Dunsmore is thirty. His family is Scotch. His home is in Summit, New Jersey. He worked his way through Rutgers University and in 1939 graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary. Besides being an effective preacher he is a real pastor and will get into all of our homes. He is a leader in young people's work, greatly interested in the Scouts and is especially interested in men's work.

Mrs. Dunsmore is the daughter of a minister and besides being a woman of charm and out reaching personality has had special training for her part in the work of the church. They have a son, Norman, 21 months old.

We feel that our church will thrive under the new leadership. Finish your job as soon as you can and come back and work with us."

(Signed) B. Carter Millikin

After Mr. Millikin's report was given, each member of the Pulpit Committee gave his or her impression of Mr. Dunsmore. All were most enthusiastic. The Committee has done a marvelous piece of work. Few of us realized how much time and effort they had expended. After the call was issued to Mr. Dunsmore, the committee was discharged with many, many thanks.

The Manse has been newly renovated--and on March 16th Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore moved to Ambler. He preached his first sermon on March 21st. I know you folks are going to like them very, very much. Already Mr. Dunsmore is interested in you and in our News Letter. I know that he will be only too glad to be of assistance to you in every way possible.

We welcome the Dunsmores to Ambler. Our church affords a promising opportunity for constructive work. The coming months will not be easy--much planning will be necessary for effective service, however, with the cooperation of all and with a leader of vision, faith, courage and zeal, to inspire us we should achieve greater successes than ever before.

To Mr. Crist, who has been our interim pastor since January 1st, we owe many thanks for the service he has rendered to our church and its members. He came to us at a time when we were in great need of a leader and spiritual adviser. He has visited the sick and has kept in close touch with those who needed to be comforted. Both he and Mrs. Crist will be greatly missed by their host of church friends who wish them life's best and Godspeed in the future.

And now your Presbyterian correspondent signs off until April with the words of Grace Crowell, "The way of the Cross is the only one that can lead to world fellowship and peace."

Sincerely,

Helen R. Macomber

92 Bethlehem Pike
Ambler, Pennsylvania
April 17, 1943

Dear

For a long time it looked as if Spring had failed us this year--apparently it was lost for a while. Just as the historians were pondering as to how they would account for a year of three seasons only, our friend Spring began playing Hide and Seek and other tricky little games, taking delight in remaining just around the corner. However, soon after the first of this month, I believe it had a guilty conscience for it mastered enough courage to come out in the open and show itself. After the robins, crocuses, forsythia, daffodils and budding trees put in their appearance and assured us that Springtime was actually here our hearts immediately grew lighter and full of cheer. The warm sun, the deep blue sky, the song of the birds, the swelling buds and the flowers pushing through the soil always seem to dispel winter's gloom and inspire in one new hope, courage and zeal. When Robert Browning wrote "The year's at the Spring--God's in His heaven--all's right with the world" he was crystallizing forever the prevailing sentiment of Springtime.

Again it is the Easter Season--how appropriate that it is observed at the time of the return of Spring for both are symbols of re-birth and re-life. Springtime is an assurance that there is life after death, more abundant and more beautiful. Easter stands against all sorrow, doubt and fear--it is music, flowers, sunlight and joy. We need it in times like these when so many have lost their faith and have become disappointed in mankind. Wrong cannot prevail always. There is a spiritual significance to life. With the Easter Season as a guarantee let us stop and consider the benefits which have been bestowed upon us and try to share them with those who have not yet awakened to the glorious season of faith, hope and charity--all combined in Easter and Spring.

All of you are in our prayers and thoughts this Easter Season, a season in which the tide of Hope and Faith is full in our hearts.

Now for the High School news:

On March 16, seventeen newly elected members of the Honor Society were initiated. All sorts of tricks and tasks were performed. The new members are: Arthur Boulton, Ann Bolt, Barbara Chappell, Dorothy Marple, Catherine DeSando, Robert Virkler, Ruth Towne, Ruth Mayer, Agnes Rourke, Anna Illingworth, Lena Zaffarano, Edith Catanzaro, Gloria Simpson, Toni Glaser, John Gump, Helen Weller and Theresa Varallo.

Nancy Brady, George Miller, Franklin Wright and George Morrison took part in demonstrations at the directors' clinic conference on March 26 during Schoolmen's Week Convention, held at the University of Pennsylvania.

On March 19, Robert Virkler won first prize, a gold medal in the annual forensic contest. Helen Weller was judged second best and awarded a sterling silver medal. Francis Gloster, won the third prize which was a bronze medal.

Florence Faust, a graduate of the class of 1940, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the Maroon and Gold, campus publication of Bloomsburg State Teachers' College. She has won several other honors during the past three years. At the present time she is pianist for the school orchestra and chorus. Ambler Schools collected \$516 for the Red Cross War Fund Drive. Each student in the senior class pledged \$1.00 toward the Drive. Five students in the Commercial Department have secured part time positions in local offices. They work each day after school hours and on Saturdays. Over 400 spectators attended the second annual "gym night" program given on March 30 under the joint direction of Miss Bernice Boyles and Mr. John Meyers. Drills, conditioning exercises and square dances were given by the girls. The boys gave an exhibition of wrestling, boxing, drills and calisthenics. Walter Sobers has made the dean's list at Gettysburg College. He is a member of the A Cappella choir which is a very active organization. The Band will give its spring concert on May 6. Recently it made several recordings and then replayed them in order to find its mistakes. In addition to the concert Mr. Geary expects to present a guest pianist.

Mail time is always a pleasant hour for me because it so often brings letters from you folks in the service. Again I want to thank you for your very interesting letters which have come from all parts of the world. I regret that I cannot answer each one personally. We are very much interested in all of you and like to keep posted on your whereabouts and your activities. We are especially grateful to those of you who have remembered to notify us of changes in rank and address. We now send the News Letter to 100 men and women in the service. Keeping the addresses corrected and up to date is a job in itself. We appreciate your co-operation. More paper has been donated for which we are very thankful. Mr. Ralph Drew of the Paper Manufacturers Company was able to obtain several thousand sheets for us at cost and Mr. F. O. Hoyt has been kind enough to assume the expense of same. We are very grateful to Mr. Drew and Mr. Hoyt for their donations and for their interest in the News Letter.

Here is some Local News for you:

"Winnie" Stong has been transferred from Chanute Field, Illinois to Bedford, Mass. "Newt" Howard, who is at Camp Edwards, Massachusetts, has been promoted to Sergeant. Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Jones of Ambler Highlands are the proud parents of twins born March 2. Their names are Carol Lee and Allan Richard. Mrs. Jones is the former Miss Dorothy Maree of Blue Bell. Irvin is employed in Defense work at the Wissahickon Tool Works. Mildred Pierson of Francis Avenue is now in the U. S. Marine Corps Women's Reserve. She enlisted as an airplane mechanic trainee and was inducted March 9. She is receiving her preliminary training at Hunter College, New York. Several parties were given in her honor before she left. Miss Mary Dickinson was also honored at farewell parties before she left March 26 for Hunter College to begin her basic training in the WAVES. Both girls are enjoying their training immensely--they manage to get together often and have had some grand times together. Mr. and Mrs. William (Bill) H. Vincent are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter. Mrs. Vincent is the former Miss Myrtle Cope.

On April 1, the Navy disclosed the names of nine former University of Pennsylvania medical school professors and instructors who were responsible for the most remarkable record ever made by a hospital ship. The nine men get a major share of the credit for the amazing achievement of losing only seven out of 4,039 men treated in the South Pacific. Lt. Commander Elwood Godfrey, assistant instructor of radiology was one of the men in the Unit. Until he was married a few years ago he resided at 88 Bethlehem Pike, Ambler. His father Dr. Andrew Godfrey is well known in Ambler. Joseph A. Johnson has graduated from the Signal Corps School at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey and is now a second lieutenant. Charles Fesmire of Belmont Avenue has been named a police officer for the borough.

Raymond Betts is now a second lieutenant, having recently graduated from the officers' Candidate School at Ft. Monroe, Virginia. Donald Betts is completing the first half of his preliminary instruction at Fenn College, Cleveland, Ohio, prior to being appointed an aviation cadet in the Army Air Forces Flying Training Command. Robert is now a second lieutenant at Ft. Meyer, Virginia and James is a Sergeant stationed at Salem, Oregon. Major and Mrs. Edward DeLong have announced the engagement of their daughter Barbara to Lt. Randolph Hamilton, U. S. A. His home is in Sylacauga, Alabama, but he is stationed at Boston, Mass. at the present time. John M. Kirk, for the last forty years an Ambler plumber, died March 18 after a ten day's illness. He was 70 years old. Pvt. Francis Erhardt is stationed at the Engineers' Replacement Training Center, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Pvt. Charles Hibschan has been transferred from Camp Polk, Louisiana to California. His brother Wendell is at Camp Wheeler, Georgia.

Pvt. Robert Flury of Westover Field, Chicopee Falls, Mass. recently spent several days with his family. Sergeant W. E. Stout who has been stationed at Hamilton Field, San Rafael, California is now located in the Officers' Training Corps, Camp Davis, North Carolina. Mrs. Stout has returned to her home after spending seven months with her husband in California. Technical Corporal Lester Jones has been transferred from Camp Holabird, Maryland to Hammer Field, Fresno, California. Mr. Dominick Girondo, Ambler tailor, recently visited his son Pvt. Peter Girondo at Camp Croft, South Carolina. Peter is with the U. S. Infantry and a short time ago received a sharp shooting medal. Sergeant Edward Dotts of Gwynedd has returned to Phoenix, Arizona after spending a 15 day furlough with his parents—he has just been promoted to Staff Sergeant in the Air Corps.

Dr. John E. Stewart, well known Ambler dentist has received word that his son Elkin has been awarded an Air Medal for valor for his exploits in the Middle East. Elkin has been promoted to the rank of Captain and was one of five American flight officers to receive the medal. The presentation was made by General Brereton, commander-in-chief, of the American forces in the Middle East, at a desert air field near Tobruk. Last October Captain Stewart was cited for his participation in an air raid on Lille. In a radiocast on March 30, Captain Stewart was called leader of the "Boomerang Boys" in a daring raid on Wilhelmshaven. He was credited with three direct hits on the target, verified by the plane following. Very recently he has been promoted to Operations Officer. He has recently returned to England with his squadron. In six months his squadron has bombed 30 places and dumped 1,000 tons of high explosives on the enemy.

Jack Meyers of Ridge Avenue has been enjoying a furlough at home after seeing service in North Africa. Lt. Edward Murphy of Quantico, Virginia has been home on a short furlough. Pvt. Harvey K. Wittman has been a patient in the base hospital at Camp Forrest, Tennessee. Corporal Technician Daniel Bruder has returned to Hunstville, Alabama after spending ten days with his family. The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Robinson of Wyncote and Ensign Alexander Knight, U. S. N. R. will take place April 24 in the All Hallows Church, Wyncote.

Howard Garritt who has been serving in the U. S. A. Air Forces for more than a year has received a medical discharge from the Army. While training as an aviation cadet he developed a leg condition which ended his flying career. P. F. C. Francis Lamb, a former resident of Ambler, has been reported missing in action in North Africa. On March 20 105 draftees left for the armed services. Jim Corson, Ambler High School's drum major of 1940, has reported for pre-flight training as a Navy pilot at State Teachers' College in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. He enlisted last November. Sergeant Kelsey Tompkins of Park Avenue has been reported wounded in action in the North African campaign. He has been in action with an armored division around Tunisia for some time. Gilbert Huber has left for duty with the U. S. Marine Corps.

Walter Dickinson visited his parents last month. Since then he has finished his training as a torpedoman at the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois, and has begun advanced training.

Frank Urban of Euclid Avenue is now a petty officer, first class. Following his basic training, he wrote home of his experience on the water for 32 days "somewhere in the South Seas." A temporary landing was made on a small island for two days, after which they continued on their way for 10 more days, finally reaching their destination safely. John Dickinson has reported with class 43-G at Goodfellow Field Army Air Forces Basic Flying School near San Angelo, Texas. He graduated from Ambler High in 1938 where he was a member of the football, basketball and track teams in 1935 to 1938. He has previously served 15 months as an enlisted man in the Army Air Forces. The borough of Ambler has practically reached its goal of \$8000 for the Red Cross War Fund Drive. Corporal Frederick Serral, a member of the First Marine Raider Battalion, who is now in the South Pacific area and thousands of miles from home, was amazed to meet his buddy Charles Heilig a short time ago. I understand that although Charles is from New Jersey, yet he is well know in Ambler.

Ambler night for the seventh time was celebrated April 8 at the Stage Door Canteen in Philadelphia. All boys whose birthdays fall on Ambler night are honored with birthday cakes brilliantly lighted--the entire crowd sings "Happy Birthday". Several recordings of messages spoken by the boys are made each night and the discs are sent to the families and friends of the boys at the cost of the canteen. Three boys winning dances or game contests are permitted to make free telephone calls. Last month calls were made to Waukesha, Wisconsin, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, and Cuba, Missouri. Each month the list of contributors and pledges increases and each month more and more people offer their services--among the latest are Mr. and Mrs. Leidy B. Heckler, Jr., Eleanor Danser and Evelyn Kern. Miss Danser and Miss Korn are helping as food hostesses. All those in Ambler who are donating their services and money to entertain the boys at the canteen in Philadelphia are hoping that you boys in the service are receiving the same entertainment and hearty welcome in other canteens.

Peter J. Danthony of the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois, recently visited Miss Dorothy Burroughs. Ralph Davies is at Camp Cooke, California and not Virginia as I stated in the last News Letter. Bob Davies and Bill Dummeldinger are at the same naval base in Bremerton, Washington. They have been having some good times together. Bob has been promoted to aviation machinist's mate, third class. Ted Dailey has been transferred to Miller Field, Staten Island, New York, and has been promoted to private first class. Sam is at Westover Field, Mass. He is a fighter aircraft armorer and has a responsible job in that his crew has 30 pursuit planes to take care of--any mistake could easily cause the loss of a life. Sam is working on a night crew which has to see that each plane is in perfect working order at 7 A. M. each morning. He was in Florida and also at Buckley Field, Colorado before going to Massachusetts. He speaks in highest terms of Buckley Field where he received his technical school training. He is looking forward to going overseas.

John Dailey has been in several different camps since he entered the service. He was first sent to the Keesler Field, Mississippi, air base--three weeks later he was transferred to the National School of Aeronautics at Kansas City, Missouri, where he spent 16 enjoyable weeks. In December he was sent to McClellan Field, California, where he stayed two weeks before going to Camp Tanforan, San Bruno, California. That camp was formerly a Japanese Concentration Camp and had been evacuated by the Japanese only three weeks before John and his group arrived. Five weeks later he was transferred to the Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma. He expects to be moved from there in the near future.

Robert O'Brien spent a week end at home a short time ago. He is in the Naval Reserve and is now serving as a Dakar Technician on a submarine chaser. Corporal Walter Pearce has been home on a 10 day furlough from Camp Phillips, Salina, Kansas. Mrs. Pearce, the former Clara McIlroy accompanied him on his return. Pvt. George Chiriano received the Army's Purple Heart award for distinguished service when he was wounded with the American troops storming North Africa several months ago. He has fully recovered and is back in the midst of the fighting again. Pvt. James McKinnon has been transferred to the Band Division at Camp Hood, Texas where he is in training with the Anti-Tank Destroyer Company. Dick Slayton is now located at Fenn College, Cleveland, Ohio. Donald Betts, who is at the same place, and Dick have been having some good times together. Both are aviation cadet candidates. "Ben" Towne, who is in the Naval Air Corps stationed at Wilmington, Pennsylvania, has made his first solo flight--he has only been in the service a month.

Pvt. Ralph Bishop, who is now stationed at the Rome Air Base Depot, Rome, New York and Miss Elaine Tippin recently spent a week end at his home. Jack Nixon has entered Kent State University, Kent, Ohio for 5 months preliminary training in preparation for an appointment as an Aviation Cadet in the Army Air Forces Flying Training Command. Philip Benzenhafer has been promoted to Corporal. He is located in Brigham City, Utah. Donald Leech after 5 months with the Army Air Forces, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He is at Lory Field, Colorado. Thomas Gibbs, who is with the U. S. Army in Panama has been promoted to Technical Sergeant. William Wolf of Summeytown Pike has been promoted to Captain. He is located at the Army Air Base, Venice, Florida. Before the war he had the Ford agency in Ft. Washington. Johnny Jones, who is stationed at Shaw Field, Sumter, South Carolina, has returned to duty after spending a short furlough with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jones of Ft. Washington.

The citizens of Ambler and four adjoining townships are combining their efforts and pooling their land in a mass victory garden campaign. A garden information center has been opened and a series of monthly lectures has been arranged to enlighten those who know little about gardening. The garden center is located in the Nesbitt Building. Already land grants have been made by Keasby and Mattison Company, the Haywood Estate, and the Knight Estate. As soon as enough applications are received the ground will be apportioned. The chief topics of conversation at the present time are Point-rationing, victory gardens and how to get the most vitamins for the least money. A model "V" garden has been dedicated on the Parkway at 22nd Street in Philadelphia. The national Farm School will supervise the gardening--the school has arranged the model area to serve as a practical aid to both the city and suburban dwellers. A graduate of the school will be stationed at the garden every day to answer questions and help the neophyte gardener.

I recently read where a Washington woman whose cherished black spaniel strayed from home advertised in the Lost and Found column of a local newspaper, promising as a reward all her March and April canned goods. They are more precious than gold these days.

The boys at Camp Tyson, Tennessee, say the "reddest face in Tennessee" belongs to Corp. William Herron. Arriving at Camp from Florida, he proceeded to unpack his barracks bag and pulled out dainty feminine undergarments in a steady stream. The reason: en route, he had accidentally exchanged his bag with one belonging to a WAAC. Howard Stong has lately been inducted into the Army. Charles Yost, who is attending the Valley Forge Military College, has been deferred until June 15 when he will go to Boeing Field, Georgia, to train in the Army Air Corps. He expects to be commissioned a second lieutenant at that time. On March 22, the Philadelphia Electric Company had a half page "ad" in the Inquirer using the Haag twins, George and Frank as their theme. There were pictures of them in uniform with the title-- "A pair of Aces for Uncle Sam."

The boys worked with the Philadelphia Electric Company before their enlistment in the Army Air Corps. Both boys were recently promoted to Lieutenant. They have returned to Langley Field, Virginia after spending a furlough with their parents. P. F. C. Joe Jonny is stationed at Camp Hulen, Texas. Ed Steer, who is studying radio in the Marine Corps, is located in Philadelphia where he is taking his advanced training. He gets home every night. His marriage to a girl in Wyndmoor will take place sometime in May.

For the first time in months, Mrs. Amey has received a letter from Major Herbert Amey stating that he is now resting after having seen much action in Guadalcanal. Ralph Amey, who was married two years ago has lived in Circleville, Ohio, until he left April 8 for the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Ed Amey was greatly disappointed when it was found that he was physically unfit for high altitude flying. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in August--everything went fine until he reached the point where he began his "solo-ing". He was conscious of severe pain in his head when flying at a high altitude. After a diagnosis of his condition it was found to be the result of an injury which he received four years ago while working for a tobacco company in California. He has been assigned to the Air Corps office at Enid, Oklahoma.

Bill Singer will graduate from Williamson Trade School in June after which he plans to enlist in the Naval Air Corps. Bruce Singer, who is at present employed at SKF Industries, plans to enlist in the Army Air Corps after he has had a minor operation performed on one of his feet. Bud Rawlins is located at Camp Hood, Texas, with the tank destroyer division. Al Acuff stationed at Camp Lee, Virginia, has been promoted to second lieutenant. After spending a short furlough at his home he will be transferred to the Ordnance Depot, Omaha, Nebraska. Ted Greish has been inducted into the army and at present is located at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. Sonny Farrington was home a short time ago. He is a radio man on a P. T. boat, patrolling from New York to Virginia.

Philip Barbacow is now resting in Australia after fighting with the marines at Guadalcanal. A short time ago he met Jean Berez who is also in the army and they have played golf together several times. Franklin Pledge has graduated from the Marine Ordnance School at Quantico as an artillery mechanic. He is now a private first class. Jimmy Heywood shot a 300 game while getting in shape for the Annual Classic Bowling Sweepstakes this month. This is the second perfect game of the season. In November he rolled "300" and is one of the many champions who will compete in the Sweepstakes. He is a favorite to win part of the prize fund of \$1000 in War Bonds.

Even though the younger set has to stay near home these days on account of transportation facilities yet they manage to enjoy themselves. On Saturday, April 10, fourteen members of the Junior class at the high school arranged a progressive dinner. The first course of fruit cup was served at Eileen Urban's--they went to Jeanne Rile's for salad and then Dorothy Sanders served the soup course. From there they went to Nancy Wilson's for the piece de resistance which was roast chicken and fixings. Dessert was served at Barbara Chappell's and then the seven couples went back to Nancy's for dancing and games.

Jack Kaiser, who is stationed at Newport News, Virginia, spent the week end of April 4 at his home.

The boys and girls from all the churches in Ambler have organized a Community Youth Council. They hold one meeting a month--at the present time the Council is planning an Easter Morning sunrise service which will be held either at Lindenwood Field or the High School grounds. Harry Wolf is located at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Dave" Hellings arrived home unexpectedly the week end of April 10. I'll try to give you more details in my next letter.

You may have heard the following stories, however, I'll pass them along:

Mabel: "Why did you break off your engagement with that good-looking Army doctor?"

Betty: "Oh, it was his terrible writing. Everytime I had a letter from him I had to take it to a druggist to find out what was in it."

A man at the front received a nagging letter from his wife and wrote in reply: "Please don't write me any more letters. Let me enjoy this war in peace."

Passing a hand over his forehead, the worried drill-sergeant paused for breath as he surveyed the knock-kneed recruit. Then he pointed a scornful finger. "No," he declared, "you're hopeless. You'll never make a soldier. Look at you now. The top half of your legs is standin' to attention and the bottom half is standin' at ease!"

The Baseball clubs began their spring training the middle of March. The Athletics went south to Wilmington, Delaware, to start their training and the Phillies went to Hershey, Pennsylvania. The American League has 114 players in the armed forces.

Schoolboy Rowe, who equaled an American League pitching record for 16 straight victories while hurling for the Detroit Tigers nine years ago, will pitch for the Phillies this season. 5000 fans saw the A's defeat the Phillies 5-3 on April 4 in the first game of the Philadelphia city series. Spring football practice seems to be giving some of the coaches plenty of headaches. In some cases the tackling dummies outnumbered the players. Many of the suburban schools have called off their annual baseball games for the duration and will increase their intramural activity. There have been some highly contested games in basketball the past few weeks. Lower Merion High School's basketball team won the State P. I. A. A. crown for the third straight time--fourth in the series that started in 1920--9500 fans witnessed the 29--28 victory over Farrell High which gave them the title. The outstanding school fives of the Southeastern Pennsylvania district competed in a Tournament of Champions for the Red Cross War Fund on March 31 and April 3. Roman Catholic High, Lower Merion High, West Catholic High, and Penn Charter were the schools represented. The Palestra was donated for the two nights and officials and attendants gave their services without charge. On the first evening Roman Catholic beat W. Philadelphia 26-24 and Penn Charter in an extra period defeated Lower Merion 28-26--it was their first defeat in 57 games. 7000 witnessed the games contributing \$6000 to the Red Cross war effort.

On April 3 Roman Catholic High's basketball team and Lower Merion High's combination came back from defeat to close their seasons with victories. Before 5500 people Roman Catholic defeated Penn Charter 37-25 and the West Philadelphia quintet lost to Lower Merion 25-17.

Much interest is centered on the forthcoming Penn Relays which will be held April 23 and 24. Despite the wartime conditions 51 colleges have made entries. "Andy" Tomasic, star of Temple University's grid and diamond has been accepted by the army. He was previously turned down by the Marines and Navy.

Here is a bit of National News:

Since Olive Belgarde began her duties as "trainman" on the Pennsylvania Railroad there has been no congestion among commuters. Olive, a 23 yr. old brunette, who attracts more than scant male attention with her trim uniform, has unwittingly helped to speed up vital transportation. The railroad anticipates the same thing will happen when more than two dozen of her contemporaries are installed. They assist passengers off the train and the male riders go for it. Mrs. Belgarde's husband is also a trainman.

A Canteen for enlisted women in the armed services--the WAACS, WAVES, WAFS, Spars, and Marines--has been opened in the headquarters of the Navy League Service, 1429 Chestnut Street and is the first of its kind in the city. A two-hour dinner service--from 5:30 until 7:30--will be maintained seven days a week. The club will be open daily from 10 A. M. until 11 P. M. The facilities include a sewing room, equipment for pressing clothes, a lending library and a shopping service. There will be classes in sewing, dramatics, and bridge, entertainment, programs, and occasional movies.

Henry J. Kaiser, West Coast shipbuilder has taken over all the Brewster plants, one of which is located near Hatboro. Swarthmore College has been selected by the Naval College Training Program to train 480 apprentice seamen for pre-medical and engineering courses beginning July 1. The group is expected to include a large number of former Swarthmore men who are at present enrolled under the V-7 or V-12 naval plan.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross is lending a hand to soldiers who cannot cope with needle and thread. Recently a mobile sewing unit was started which gives the soldier weekly mending service. The station wagon, driven by a smartly uniformed Motor Corps driver, visits the many small Army units in this area. This mobile unit carries its own sewing machine, a large selection of military buttons and all equipment necessary for mending rips, darning and doing general repair work. The workers not only do the mending jobs but they also give instructions to soldiers on using thread and needle.

Whipped by a high wind, flames swept the Philadelphia Cricket Club on April 5 leaving it very badly damaged. The central section of the building was ruined. Damage to the club, second oldest cricket club in the country, was estimated at \$100,000. The first wartime Inquirer Hero Award was made on April 10 at Reyburn Plaza when Sergeant Albert A. Schmid of the Marine Corps received a gold medal and \$1000 in cash. Thousands witnessed the ceremonies and paid tribute to the Guadalcanal hero who killed 200 Japs in one savage night of fighting. He was partially blinded as a result of his experiences. Already he has been awarded the Navy Cross. He is 23 years old.

Women have contributed 18,000,000 pairs of old silk and nylon stockings as potential parachutes and powder bags in the last four months. The Cherry Trees around Washington's tidal basin have been re-named officially and henceforth they will be known as the Oriental Flowering Cherry Trees.

The U. S. Crop Corps believes that a woman can drive a tractor if she can drive a car so it is now training women for this work in order to release men for the armed forces. In the Pennsy Shops at Wilmington, 579 women are doing men's work. A year ago women were hired only as clerks and telephone operators--today they are doing all kinds of jobs. They are pipefitters, laborers, upholsterers, tinsmiths, electricians, machinists, blacksmiths, boilermakers, turn-table operators, car repairmen, and cleaners. For the first year they get helper's pay, 72 cents an hour.

Rachmaninoff, 69, world-famous composer and pianist succumbed to pneumonia on March 29 at his home in California. He was generally regarded as second only to Paderewski, and, since the latter's death, as unexcelled master of the keyboard. He always guarded his hands meticulously, in cold weather using an electrically-heated muff before concerts.

On March 28 a subway train rumbled along for 4.9 miles under downtown Chicago, bringing to realization a 40-year dream of residents of the nation's second largest city. When the 56 mile system is completed the project will have cost \$240,000,000.

On March 29, three hundred fifty women, in smart uniforms of cadet blue, began work in Philadelphia as trolley and bus loaders for the Philadelphia Transit Co. Philadelphia's greatest Treasure, Independence Hall, with its associate buildings has been designated a "National Shrine." Philadelphia, which has tended these cherished landmarks for about 127 years and preserved them for posterity, will now share its stewardship with all the American People. Beaver College, Jenkintown may be used as a training base for one of the women's reserves of the armed services --at least the plan is being considered at the present time.

A sailor after placing some flowers on a grave in a cemetery noticed an old Chinaman placing a bowl of rice on a near-by grave and asked: "What time do you expect your friend to come up and eat the rice?" The old Chinaman replied with a smile: "Same time your friend come up to smell flowers."

Talking about death reminds me of something my son Dick said one day when he was about six years old. He had been quiet for a long time which was most unusual--evidently he had been doing some deep thinking. Suddenly he exclaimed, "If I were going to commit suicide, I think I would hang myself rather than shoot myself, and then I wouldn't be so apt to die."

Easter is unusually late this year. Lent is the latest in 57 years. April 25, the date of Easter this year, is the latest it can be in any year. The last time that Easter fell on the 25th was in 1886. It won't happen again for 95 years--2038.

And finally comes the news of the Church and the Church Family:

We are very happy to have a permanent pastor once more. Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore are rapidly becoming acquainted with the church members. The church attendance has greatly increased since their arrival. It is our sincere hope and prayer that a long and happy relationship will exist between the Dunsmores and the church members.

Immediate steps to establish a Presbyterian Center for Service Men in the mid-city area will be taken as a result of a meeting the middle of March of 70 leading Presbyterian ministers and laymen at the University Club. At their request, the moderators of the Philadelphia, Philadelphia North and Chester Presbyterians will appoint a committee which is to arrange for the opening of the center.

Roscoe Smith Jr., pharmacist second class U. S. N. has recently spent a 10 day leave at his home. He is stationed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Marion Johnson Davis has recently spent a few days with her husband Bob who is a first lieutenant in the Army stationed at Ft. Eustis, Virginia.

The young people of the church have decided to affiliate with the international, inter-denominational Society of Christian Endeavor. The Tuxis group in the future will be known as the Intermediate Christian Endeavor Society and the young people's group will bear the name Senior Christian Endeavor Society. The affiliation involves no obligations, but rather widens the scope of the fellowship of Christian youth. Julia Ann Eckfeldt, who spent a few days with her family the last of March, was named to the All-Wilson basketball team. She was also among the six girls who won honorary stars. To win such insignia, a girl must play with outstanding skill in more than half of her class's first team games.

While on a recent business trip to Jacksonville, Florida, Mr. James Little visited his son Bill who is an aviation cadet in training at Maxwell Field, Alabama. A short time ago Bill wrote that the troops at Maxwell Field had been reviewed by Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, General Henry H. Arnold, commander of the Army Air Forces,

General George Marshall and Field Marshall Chief, Sir John Dill. The men inspected the rooms and reviewed the entire outfit on the field.

On Sunday, March 28, the members of the Sunday School presented Mr. Claude Rohr with a Bulova wrist watch in appreciation of his 15 years of faithful service as superintendent. Mr. Fred Eckfeldt has been elected to succeed Mr. Rohr. Mrs. Peter Schoenberg recently visited her son Jack in Atlantic City. Since then he has been transferred to Easton, Pennsylvania, where he is training at Lafayette College. J. Hampton Moore is now stationed with the Army Air Force at Panama. A short time ago while attending the movies he met Joe Lapetina.

Ambler Boy Scout Troop #3 has been reorganized. Mr. Fred Eckfeldt was elected chairman of the 1943-44 Troop Committee. Other members of the committee are Ralph Drew, Claude Rohr, Rev. Dunsmore, Alfred Gorton, Joseph Jervis, Leidy Heckler, Roland Macomber, Harold Worth, and James Snyder. The officers are as follows: Scoutmasters, Edgar Eckfeldt, Hugh Sivell, Willard Slocum, and William Amey. A program of both indoor and outdoor activities for the coming year has been arranged. Mr. and Mrs. John Cassel are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son.

Staff Sergeant Linville Hutchison was stricken with pneumonia a few weeks ago while home on a furlough. He was taken to the Valley Forge General Hospital. His friends are happy to know that he has made a rapid recovery. It was nice to see him in church on April 11--he returned to Camp Pickett a few days later.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Horst of Boyertown attended the church services on March 21 and were cordially welcomed by their many friends. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gerhart have returned from Ft. Meade, Maryland, after visiting their son Donald who underwent an operation on March 15. They found him in good condition and being well cared for at the Army Base Hospital. His many friends are happy to know he is making a rapid recovery. Donald enrolled at the Pennsylvania Military College in September. With one exception the entire freshman class was inducted into the army. Bobby Gerhart, who is in his senior year at McDonough, Maryland has been deferred until June 15 at which time he expects to be inducted into the army. Charles Gerhart failed to pass his army physical examination because of a head injury which he received five years ago when he fell off a truck. He is very disappointed especially now that his brother Donald is in the service. Hugh Bullard has been transferred from Miami, Florida to Colorado.

The annual congregational meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, April 21. On April 2, Mary Rishel became the bride of Lt. William D. Huttinger of Lansdowne. After a three day wedding trip, he returned to Pando, Colorado, where he is stationed with the Ski Troops. Mary will resume her studies at Drexel where she is a senior and after graduation will join her husband. In my last letter I told you about Mrs. Rishel's serious accident. The wedding took place at Hahnemann Hospital where Mrs. Rishel is convalescing. Her bed was wheeled into the solarium where the ceremony was performed in the presence of the immediate families. Mary was dressed in blue and her flowers were white orchids. Lt. Huttinger is a graduate of Penn State and has been home on a furlough following an illness of pneumonia. Frank Morgan and Richard King are in the same corps at Camp Butner, North Carolina--in fact they "bunk" in the same barracks.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ledebor and son Jack visited George Cramer the week of April 9. They met at Charleston, South Carolina, and had a grand reunion. George, who is located at Parris Island, decided he would like to get some extra time off to spend with his family so after pressing his suit very nicely even to the point of scorching it a bit, he presented himself to his officer. He awaited the reply with fear, however, much to his surprise the request was granted. When his folks came into the hotel room that evening there was George who had arrived a day early. It was a grand surprise.

His newly earned P. F. C. stripe even though sowed on a bit askew was another big surprise. He had many interesting stories to relate about his "boat" training which was most intensive and about his experiences as coach on the rifle range. You will be interested to know that Anthony Biddle the famous "praying" Marine taught him the use of the bayonet and "Jude".

We wish to extend congratulations to Wilson MacIntire whose engagement has been announced to Miss Christina Finley of Germantown. Wilson is in the Navy and has recently been transferred to the Pacific Coast. Thelma Nice Hurt has received word that her husband who is now an aerial gunner will receive crew training before going overseas as a member of a bomber crew. Frank King looked very special in his uniform when he was home on furlough the middle of March. Since his return he has been transferred to Los Angeles, California, where he expects to be on desert maneuvers for several months.

Lt. Alfred Martin is now located at Atlantic Beach, Florida. Since being in the army he has spent a winter in Hawaii and another in Florida. He is very eager to get back into some theater of war again. P. F. C. Charles McPhail is now located in New Guinea--he has recently received his silver wings. He is very much interested in his work. Mrs. George Deens and daughter have gone to Oakland, California, where they will join Mr. Deens who was recently transferred from Virginia to Camp Parks, Pleasanton, California. Gordon Jervis is now located at the Rio Grande Base, New Jersey. We were glad to see him in church on April 4.

Bill Pierson has been in the hospital the past few weeks but is now well on the way to recovery. He hopes to get home on a furlough in the near future. "Flo" Hamilton surely looks grand in her uniform. She is a ticket agent for the American Air Lines whose office is located at 1423 Walnut Street. She enjoys the work immensely. Gerry Davis has been transferred to the Army Air Forces Gunnery School at Tyndall Field, Florida. Bill McKinney has been transferred from Sampson, New York, to Memphis, Tennessee. We are happy to extend congratulations to Russell Beningo, Harry Crockett, George Camburn, Charles Wagner, and Robert Jervis who are celebrating their birthdays this month.

I know you will be glad to hear from Reverend Dunsmore. I feel that you already know him after having introduced him to you last month. He sends the following message:

348 Lindenwold Avenue
Ambler, Pa.
April 5, 1943

Dear Member:

As your new minister, it is my privilege to write a friendly letter to you, even though we may never have even met each other. I want you to know that your families, your friends, and your pastor are all thinking of you, and praying for you constantly.

Today a letter came to me from my mother who lives in Summit, New Jersey. She told of the safe arrival in Scotland of a 24 year old Scottish lad, Eddie Livingstone, 2nd Officer in the British Merchant Marine, who had spent five weeks in Summit following his third torpedoing which occurred near Trinidad. My mother said in the same letter that my sister Marge had not heard from her husband for three weeks--he is Major William F. Duncan, Army Air Corps, now in Tunisia. Both my brothers, Douglas and Robert, are in the army also. I mention these things just to let you know that we at home feel mighty close to you who are serving your country. May you be true to Christ, and in the surrender of yourself to Him find the "peace that passes understanding," and strength for whatever you may have to endure.

Yours cordially,

(Signed) Norman Dunsmore

One can not look at the world today without being convinced that something is definitely wrong with mankind. Right now is the time to begin to rectify that wrong. There is no question but what the church has the answer to the problems which confront us. Pearl Buck says, "If the church in our country does not lead now, it may never have the opportunity again. Now is the moment of crises." The church because it believes in eternal values and accepts eternal truths will lead in the movement which will eventually save the world. Each of us must do faithfully and conscientiously the work which is ours to do to hasten the day when the world's ills will be cured. The church has brought blessings untold to all generations--it makes every community a better place in which to live. It will continue to live triumphantly so let us not forget our church. The church is dedicated to the service of humanity.

And now your Presbyterian correspondent signs off until May trusting that the Easter Season and Springtime will fill your heart with new hopes and courage and Faith.

Sincerely,

Helen R. Macomber

92 Bethlehem Pike
Ambler, Pa.
May 21, 1943

Dear

My thoughts became so wilted, drooped and parched during the first week of May when an unexpected heat wave descended upon us that up to the present time I have been unable to revive them. Please forgive me if at times my remarks seem desultory and rambling. I am really thankful for the heat wave because up to that time my conscience greatly troubled me to think that in my April letter I had even hinted that Spring was on the way. After that we had snow and some of the coldest weather of the year. Until "Benny" in the morning Inquirer gave us the idea of using sun lamps in our victory gardens we were most discouraged. Palm Sunday, April 18th was so winterish we began to think "I'm Dreaming of a White Easter" was the most appropriate song of the day. The trout season opened April 15th and only those who had the spirit of pioneers dared venture out to brave the high winds and low temperatures. In the Poconos the snow was a foot or more deep and the thermometer registered 2 below zero at 6 A. M.--the streams were frozen from shore to shore--at least it was unique to fish in a howling snow storm. It was so chilly in Philadelphia that the anglers who fished in the Wissahickon Creek feared they would be requested to give up points for frozen fish. The month of May has been quite normal and from all appearances summer is on the way.

This letter has had to be neglected a bit because your correspondent has been tied up with dramatics. The Colony Club presented "Mrs. Harper's Bazaar" on May 12 and I portrayed Mrs. Cunliffe, a very influential matron. After dressing up in an evening gown, high heeled slippers, silver fox furs, costly jewelry and the like, it is going to be difficult to be just plain and simple Mrs. Macomber with house-cleaning and other menial tasks staring me in the face. You and your wives won't be burdened with anything so common. The last issue of Better Homes and Gardens predicts that after the war living conditions will be quite different, for instance, non-upholstered plywood furniture will be used--it knocks down and packs--enough for a four-room house--into a 5x5x8 foot box, can be reassembled with only a screw-driver, most of it without that. Chairs knock down and slip into desk drawers. Tables knock down to flat tops. Some designers predict that all furniture will be built-in and mounted on the wall so the floor will always be free for quick, easy cleaning. Chairs will be reduced in weight to 35 lbs. and will still be strong enough to hold a person weighing 220 lbs. Another innovation which appeals to me is that if you like, you may buy a whole day's meal, vacuum-packed and hot whenever you are ready to eat, from a food utilities company. They'll be prepared under exacting conditions, delivered once a day like your milk. Chemists say the day may come when we won't use electric lights--rooms will be lighted with absorbed daylight. I could go on mentioning many other unbelievable changes which will take place after the war due to wartime research. You and future generations have a real Utopia facing you in the post war world.

Now I'll get back to present day conditions and tell you about some of the activities at the High School:

John W. Meyers, athletic director and head football coach, has resigned to take a position with the American Red Cross. He left April 26 for three weeks of basic training in Washington, D. C., after which he will be placed in an Army Camp for more advanced work. At the end of two weeks, he then expects to be sent to an overseas base where his duties will consist of organizing and providing recreational facilities for U. S. service men. Coach Meyers came to Ambler High School last September to replace James Lauder who enlisted in the Navy.

The High School Play "She's a Soldier's Sweetheart" was a big success. Anne Illingworth and Bob Harsch were outstanding in the leading roles. Dorothy Sanders did a marvelous job with the part of Grandmother Larkin. Ruth Smith, who had the part originally was taken ill the afternoon of the day it was scheduled to be given and was unable to perform Thursday or Friday nights. Dot was taken out of classes at 2 o'clock and was given the role. With only 5 hours to memorize the part she gave an excellent performance and deserves much credit. All the members of the cast deserve honorable mention.

Pvt. Russell Benigno, who has been enjoying a furlough, was a recent visitor at the high school and played a selection on the tuba at one of the assembly programs. Frank J. Fertsch has been appointed as janitor to replace William Groff, who resigned. Ensign James Lauder, former coach at the high school, now stationed at Norfolk, Va., spent the week end of April 18th visiting friends in Ambler.

The annual Junior-Senior Prom was held May 7th. Bud Riley and his orchestra furnished the music for the affair. On May 1st the track team defeated Abington High 63½ to 44½. The annual Band Concert and Junior High School play were given May 6th. Sirens blew for an air raid alert just as the concert was well under way, so several numbers had to be omitted. An old time silent movie was shown during the blackout. The Junior High School presented two one act plays under the direction of Miss Gear.

Class night exercises will be held May 21st. Commencement exercises will be held June 8th.

The High School boasts one of the best relay teams since 1932. Herb Williams, George Miller, Bill Kalb and Bob Stevens won the one mile relay in their class at the Penn Relays.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of Ambler High School will be held in the auditorium on Thursday, May 27. An appropriate program is being arranged for the occasion. In addition to the anniversary celebration, a service flag in honor of the High School Alumni, now serving in the armed forces, will be dedicated.

The old home town is quiet and peaceful these days. The only excitement is the almost continual hum of bombers and planes from the nearby aviation base at Hatboro. It is not unusual to see Ambler residents in goodly numbers lined up to gaze at the stunts and aerial spectacle overhead. Evidently the naval cadets are doing some intensive training in preparation for their exploits in foreign skies.

There are a few changes in town, an example of which is the Texaco Gas Station on Butler Avenue. It has become a regular department store and carries everything from alarm clocks to seeds, garden utensils, work clothes, bathing suits, gloves, aprons, suit cases, model airplanes and eggs. Because of the gas restrictions, dealers have to resort to other sales in order to keep out of the red.

The Jarrettown home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Theel burned to the ground on April 29th. Fireman fought the blaze for more than three hours before bringing it under control. With the loss of furnishings and many valuable oil paintings, in addition to the house, the damage was estimated around \$20,000.

Norman K. Hibbs of Fort Washington has been promoted to Sergeant and is located with an armored field artillery battalion "somewhere in the desert", California. Before his induction in March, 1942, Hibbs pitched for the Buffalo Bisons. Arthur Hansen has recently spent a few days at his home after completing his basic training at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Sampson, N. Y. Technical Sergeant David McCrork is undergoing treatment for an old eye injury at Halloran

Army Hospital, Staten Island, N. Y. after having served overseas since May 1942. He arrived in the United States April 10 from Egypt. He formerly served in England and Ireland. His brother Walter is in the Army stationed at Atlanta. Lt. Henry G. Bussing has reported for transition training as a multi-engine bomber pilot at Hobbs Army Air Field, New Mexico. On completing his present training, he will be a qualified combat bomber pilot. Since my last letter Captain John E. Stewart, son of Dr. J. G. Stewart, has won additional honors. He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Oak Leaf Cluster and the Silver Star for his exploits in the Army Air Forces overseas. In the presence of a large assemblage of guests on Saturday afternoon, April 24th, at 4 o'clock, Miss Elizabeth W. Robinson of Wyncote was married to Ensign Alexander Knight, U. S. Naval Air Corps. Mrs. Richard Gifford, sister of the bridegroom, served as matron of honor. Ensign Knight was attended by his brother-in-law, Richard Gifford. Immediately after the ceremony, a reception for 250 guests was held at the home of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Milton F. Barringer. Ensign and Mrs. Knight left for a wedding trip to the South--he is stationed at Cherry Point, N. C. They will live at New Bern, N. C.

Carl Meyers is the fourth in his family to enter the service. He left April 26th for duty with the U. S. Marines and will be stationed at Parris Island, S. C. Harry E. Wood has been promoted to the rank of private first class. He has just completed his basic training at Camp Hood, Texas and is now attending radio school. Lt. Edward Murphy has recently spent a ten-day furlough at his home. He has been transferred from Quantico, Va. to the Marine Base at New River, N. C. Mrs. Ellen Betts is visiting her husband, Lt. Raymond Betts, who is in the Coast Guard Artillery, stationed at Galveston, Texas. Charles Douchar has recently been commissioned a second lieutenant. He spent a day with his family en route to Bucknell Junior College, Wilkes-Barre where he has begun his administrative duties. Alfred Acuff was called to active duty immediately after his graduation from the Officers' Candidate Court at Quartermaster school, Camp Lee, Va. Norman Jones is now an Ensign in the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve. He was a teacher at the Matthias Sheeleigh School before entering the service. William Constable has returned to the Great Lakes Naval Base after spending a few days with his parents. He recently graduated as a First Class Machinist Mate. Keasbey and Mattison Co. have announced the resignation of Vincent Melograma, manager of its textile division. He leaves his executive position to take over the photographic business formerly conducted by his son Vincent who is now in the Army stationed at Camp Robinson, Arkansas. Another son Joseph is serving in England. P. F. C. Myron Cohen, formerly of Ambler, has been admitted to the practice of law before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. He is now stationed at Camp Polk, La.

"Newt" Howard has recently spent a 10 day furlough with his parents. Corporal Robert Lutz has been home on a furlough from Camp Maxey, Texas. Harold Harp, U. S. N. is now located at Camp Peary, Va. Pvt. Charles Hibschan has been transferred from Camp Polk, La. to California. Sidney Broughton, of Williamsville, N. Y., has been home for a few days. P. F. C. Radcliffe Allen is located at Fort Dix, N. J. Sgt. Harold Carl has been home from Smyrna, Tenn. on a 15 day furlough. P. F. C. John Fluck is now stationed at Fort Dix, N. J. Pvt. Robert Redington has recently visited his friends in Ambler. He is now serving as a director of athletics for his battalion at Camp Lee, Va.

Mr. Samuel Wright, commander of the Ambler Post of the American Legion, has asked me to extend the following invitation to you. Mrs Maxson has enclosed the same message in her letter to the Upper Dublin Lutheran boys:

"The Norton Downs Jr. Post 125 of the American Legion of Ambler hereby invites the boys in the service to meet with them at any time they are home on leave.

"Meetings are held the Second Thursday evening of every month at the Legion Home on Lindenwold Avenue.

"The post recently changed their By Laws making all boys of World War No. 2 eligible for membership after discharge. The only qualification is an honorable discharge from the service of Uncle Sam. This is in accordance with the policy of the National Body.

"The boys who served in World War No. 1 are losing some of their spinach and will gladly welcome some of the younger blood into their ranks to carry on "for God and Country."

(Signed) Samuel Wright, Commander

Private Melvin James, who left this country sometime ago, was amazed to see Gordon Charlton in the base recreation hall a short time ago--another incident which proves that the world is small after all. Gordon is in the Coast Artillery. The boys had a grand time discussing affairs back home and made plans for a three day leave which they hoped would materialize. Ed Amey has been promoted to the rank of Corporal. He is stationed at Enid, Okla. Rev. J. William Dow has accepted a position with the Standard Pressed Steel Co. in Jonkintown. Lt. Spencer Shoemaker has been transferred from California to Camp Rucker, Ala. Donald Roberts, second class petty officer, who is stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Training Base, has recently visited his parents. Harry W. Dickinson, Jr., who is with the Army Air Forces at Miami Beach, has been promoted to the rank of Corporal. Paul Raser is also a Corporal and has been transferred from California to the gunnery school at Kingman, Arizona. Pvt. Ralph S. Bishop is now located at Hunter Field, Savannah, Ga. The Misses Dorothy and Emily Howard, Mrs. Maynard Hunsberger and Sgt. Newton Howard recently visited Mary Dickinson of the Waves, located at Hunter College, N. Y. Since their visit she has been transferred to Washington, D. C. where she is doing secretarial work at the navy yard. She is now a yeoman third class. Bob Davies called his family from Brannerton, Washington, on Sunday, May 2nd and had a grand chat with them. He has just been assigned to a new aircraft carrier. Leroy Davies and Harvey Eisenhard have been accepted by the Navy and will report for duty after graduation in June.

Lt. and Mrs. Robert Buck are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son on April 16th. Mrs. Buck is the former Miss Alice Kenyon. Lt. Buck is stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga. Pvt. Walter Dummeldinger stationed at Chanute Field, Illinois, recently visited his fiancée, Miss Harriett Gump of Fort Washington. Richard Gifford and James Eddowes, who were recent guests at the cottage of Judge Knight, saved the life of Lt. Dean of Kentucky, whose plane crashed into the water off Ocean City. Both men noticed the plight of the aviator and hastened to a nearby garage where they obtained a canoe and made their way to the pilot's rescue. He was suffering from shock and exposure having been in the water an hour. Maurice Childs is now a corporal stationed at Ypsilanti, Mich. He has been made a crew chief of the Army Air Forces.

"Dave" Hellings returned to active duty the week of May 10 after spending a few weeks with his family. He received a warm welcome from his many friends who were happy to learn of his safe arrival home. He expected to be away four months, however, eleven months had elapsed when he returned unexpectedly to surprise his family. Dave has had many interesting experiences. He was sent on a convoy to Russia and arrived in Murmansk on Christmas Day. He spent sometime in England, Scotland and Iceland as well as Russia. Dave shipped on the boat as a cadet. He was studying to become a merchant marine on the Schoolship Annapolis when the government took over both the merchant marines and the Schoolship. The trip was part of Dave's course and since it took seven months longer than he expected he was rather worried about the "exams" he was to have taken. He was unable to do much

studying, however, much to his delight he passed his "exams" just before he left and is now a third mate.

Stewart Davis is now at Randolph Field, Texas. Donald Betts is at Nashville, Tenn. Dr. John A. Hoffa, now a lieutenant junior grade in the U. S. Naval Reserve, has arrived safely in North Africa. He left for overseas duty February 23rd. Lt. John Purcell has arrived in North Africa. He is in the quartermaster corps. Pvt. William Serrao is located at Ft. Jackson, S. C.

The Second War Loan Drive began April 12. The Government was faced with the necessity of raising 13 billions of dollars during April, the biggest war financing operation in the history of any nation. George Scherff, local chairman, announced that Ambler and its district went "over the top" with more than 40% over the allotted goal of \$598,000. Subscriptions at the closing date amounted to \$852, 671. 25 which shows that the folks back home are trying to back their fighting men with dollars.

Miss Mabel Ditter has been formally admitted to practice before the Montgomery County Bar at ceremonies held at Norristown on May 3rd. Joseph C. Palermo was admitted at the same time. Miss Ditter is the second woman to be admitted to the bar in Montgomery County. Her father served as her preceptor and she will be associated with him in the practice of law. Congressman Ditter left immediately after the exercises by plane for Washington. Technical Sergeant Thomas Gibbs, who is stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, has recently received a good conduct ribbon. As you probably know it is given to those who have honorably completed three years of active federal military service and who are recommended by their commanding officers for exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity. Eleanor Longcope of Ft. Washington has enlisted in the Waves and expects to go to Hunter College for her basic training in the near future. She hopes to continue her medical studies and win the rank of pharmacist's mate. Her brother Paul is a second class petty officer stationed at the Naval Air Base in Hatboro.

The marriage of Edith Niblock and Gerry Costello has recently been announced. Ted Dailey, who is stationed at Miller Field, Staten Island, N. Y., has recently spent a week end at his home. Ella Fine, who is with the Waac's, is stationed at the Philadelphia Recruiting Office. On February 21st Charles Lamb, who was employed by Keasbey and Mattison Co. before entering the Army, was reported missing in action in North Africa. His wife has received word since then that he is an Italian prisoner.

Joseph Anderson, 76, supervisor of the production of magnesia of the Keasbey and Mattison Co. prior to his retirement 3 years ago, died May 1st at his home on Park Avenue. "Cliff" Martin has received his "silver wings" and a commission as second lieutenant. He is now at Randolph Field, Texas, where he is attending an instructor's course after which he expects to be stationed at Craig Field, Selma, Ala. as an instructor. His wife, the former Pauline Haff, who has been living at Selma is now in Texas with him. E. Hudson Marlin, 87, janitor at the Ambler borough schools for 35 years died April 30th at the home of his nephew who lives in Philadelphia. Miss Edith Wright of Germantown and George W. Lightkep of Ambler were married April 28th. Miss Ann Craft has been enjoying a vacation from her duties as librarian and has spent two weeks in Miami, Fla. visiting relatives. Corporal "Bill" Weir, stationed at Ft. Belvoir, Va., recently spent a week end with his family. "Buddy" Rawlins has returned to Austin, Texas after spending a furlough with his parents. Tom Hughes, seaman second class, has been home for 9 days from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Alfred Renner, stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga. with the anti-aircraft division of the U. S. Army, has been promoted to Corporal.

Nelson Deck, who is stationed at Ft. Monroe, Va., has been promoted to Sergeant. Bill Sabold, who is at Camp Pickett, Va., has made a date with Linville Hutchison, who is at the same camp, to get together and discuss the home town news. Ralph Davies has completed his basic training in the air corps. He hopes to train for an aerial navigator. Sam Dailey is now located at Grenier Field, Manchester, New Hampshire. On April 25 one of his friends was married at the Post Chapel and Sam gave the bride away. John Dailey is at Barksdale Field, La. From his description it must be one of the finest--he has been there five weeks and has not as yet seen the entire field--evidently there are many types of recreational facilities for the boys--he mentioned bowling, baseball, stage shows, gymnasium, theater and swimming pool--the latter seems to be very popular. In addition to the above mentioned there is an 18 hole golf course. John is now studying to be a parachute rigger.

Sonny Woodward is stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Wilbert Landes writes that the News Letter is a life saver now that packages and newspapers can no longer be sent to those who are stationed outside the United States. He shares it with other Ambler boys who are in the same vicinity--his mail goes to Seattle. He wrote that Maynard Hunsberger was in the same battery.

Have you heard this one?

Little Willie, after an absence of two days arrived back at school.

"Didn't your mother write a note?"

"Yes, ma'am, but I forgot to bring it," replied Willie.

"Well, young man," went on the teacher, "why were you away?"

"I don't know, I didn't read the note," came back the unassailable reply.

Again I want to thank you for your interesting letters. We are interested in each and every one of you and like to keep posted on your whereabouts and your activities. We are happy to know that the News Letter continues to be enthusiastically received. We should appreciate it if those of you, who are stationed overseas, would tell us when you write whether or not our Letters are censored as we wish to send only news that is permissible.

President Roosevelt has recently returned from a second wartime inspection tour. He touched 20 states on the 17-day trip. He was also in Mexico where he met President Manuel Avila Camacho. Both men pledged their allegiance to the good neighbor policy of Western Hemisphere collaboration, both in the prosecution of the war against the Axis and in re-building the world after the war. His secret inspection tour of military establishments covered 7,652 miles. Contracts for the construction of 85-ton "flying wing" cargo planes at the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation plant in Hatboro are now being negotiated between the Navy and Henry J. Kaiser, West Coast shipbuilder. Kaiser is also building six small aircraft carriers a month--Mrs. Roosevelt recently christened one.

The Philadelphia Zoo has lost its rarest and most valuable exhibit, the 22-year old rhinoceros, Peggy. She was found dead in her pen after being ill only a few days. She was captured in the jungles of Nepal late in 1922 by Frank Buck, hunter and explorer. Peggy was acquired by the Zoo for \$8,000--the top price it has ever paid for a wild animal. The rhinoceros weighed 2 tons--death was attributed to old age. The attendance of adults at the Zoo is growing daily. Sunday, May 2nd the visitors' list topped the history making 32,000 of a year ago. While there were many children, yet adults were in the majority at the ratio of five to one. Tired and war-jittery citizens enjoy the zoo because they seem to step into another world and can forget routine. The zoo is supplied with many air-raid shelters also with guards instructed to shoot on sight any dangerous escaped animal. Food rationing doesn't bother. Meat eaters receive their full quota of steaks and chops from horses butchered in the garden. The animals have a Victory Garden.

How is this for a fish story?

Tommy: "I just caught a fish weighing 10 pounds and he fell off the line."

Ronnie: "How did you know the fish weighed exactly 10 pounds?"

Tommy: "He had scales on."

Former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies is engaged in his second mission to Moscow. His trip may pave the way for a meeting soon between Roosevelt and Stalin. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor are in the United States at the present time.

The Dionne quintuplets made their first visit to the United States on May 8th when they arrived at Superior, Wisconsin to christen five coastal freighters at the Walter Duntler Shipyards. They were accompanied by Papa and Mamma Dionne.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington on May 11 to confer with President Roosevelt. He was accompanied by a staff of experts, military and naval among whom was Field Marshall Sir Archibald P. Wavell.

You may not be able to appreciate this story but I'll send it anyway:

An old man at the movie theater was groping for something on the floor and a woman in the next seat solicitously asked what he had lost.

"A caramel," he told her.

"Do you mean to say that you're going to all this bother for a single caramel?" she asked.

"Yes," he replied, "my teeth are in it."

The Penn-Relays were held April 23rd and 24th--400 schools and colleges were represented. 2500 were entered in the two day meet. Gregory Rice ran away from all rivals to win the 2-mile feature in 9 minutes 12.2 seconds. It was his 65th straight victory since 1940. A Texan, named Pete Watkins, standing 6ft. 4½ inches jumped 6ft. 8 in. to smash the Drake Relay Carnival's high jump record that has stood for 21 years. Gregory Rice is now a member of the U. S. Merchant Marine. He has joined the staff as a chief specialist in the physical training department.

Harvard has dropped football for the duration. At the present time Penn, Yale and Princeton plan to continue--in fact Yale has announced plans to play 12 football games next fall--longest gridiron schedule in its modern athletic history.

Clipper Smith, football coach at Villanova since 1936, has been commissioned a captain in the U. S. Marine Corps. He has been granted a leave of absence and will resume his football activities when the war is over. It is generally believed that very little, if any, varsity football will be played at Villanova for the duration.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions the baseball games have been fairly well attended. On April 18th School Boy Rowe, pitcher for the Phillies, defeated the Athletics at Shibe Park 4-1 winding up the City Series at two games each. Since then both the Athletics and Phillies have made a fair showing in spite of the fact that the rosters of players on both teams have been thoroughly revamped. The Phillies have announced tentative plans for the scheduling of a morning and twilight game during June to give defense workers on "swing shifts" an opportunity to see major league baseball. Jimmie Wasdell, who formerly played with Pittsburgh, has been added to the Phillie roster. On May 9th the second largest crowd in National League history in Philadelphia watched the Phillies score two of their finest triumphs in many seasons as they defeated New York in both ends of a doubleheader at Shibe Park, 3-2 and 3-1--nearly 25,000 saw the games. School Boy Rowe pitched magnificent

ball in the first game. Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, shattered a life time precedent on April 25th when he witnessed his first Sunday major league baseball game. He was at Ebbets Field to participate in the climax of a War Bond drive in which Brooklyn players and the management were credited with sales totaling \$75,000,000. Up to that time he has avoided the baseball park on Sundays and named one of his aides as acting manager for the games.

On Thursday April 29th a new Stage Door Canteen was opened in San Francisco. Those of you, who are in that vicinity should visit it to see if you get the wonderful attention and entertainment given by the Philadelphia Canteen.

No doubt you know why soldiers are always so tired the first of April- - - - (because they have just had a long march of 31 days).

The majority of the City of Philadelphia Public School athletic supervisors have voted to remove poor scholastic standing as a barrier to participation in interschool sports. If approved by the superintendent, the new rule will become effective at the start of the fall term. Thereafter, it will be possible for a student, although deficient in his studies to represent his school on the football field, the basketball court, or in any branch of athletics. The new rule is so contrary to accepted principles that it is astounding even to athletic-minded sports writers.

The following definitions may be of interest to you:

Socialism: You have two cows and give one to your neighbor.

Communism: You have two cows; you give both to the government and the government gives part of the milk to you.

Fascism: You keep both cows and give the milk to the government. The government sells part of the milk to you.

Naziism: The government shoots you and keeps both cows.

New Dealism: The government shoots one cow, milks the other and pours the milk into the river.

And finally comes the news of our church and church family:

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the church was held on April 21st at 8:00 P. M.

An Easter Sunrise Service sponsored by the Ambler Youth Council was held at 6:30 A. M. in the Episcopal Church. Rev. Harshberger of the Brethren Church spoke.

Pvt. Bill Pierson of Camp Atterbury, Indiana recently spent a 10 day furlough at his home following an illness of pneumonia. It was nice to see him in church on Palm Sunday.

Mrs. Charles Abbott, the former Miss Jane Milliken, and son "Teddy" have been spending several weeks at the home of her parents. Edwin Hunt Abbott (Teddy) was christened on Sunday, April 18th. Phyllis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Cowles was also christened on the same date.

Donald Gerhart has made a splendid recovery from his recent illness. He spent 5 or 6 weeks at the Station Hospital, Ft. Meade, Md. In a recent letter he spoke of the splendid work the Red Cross is doing for the boys who are ill--at Ft. Meade they are doing everything possible to entertain and cheer the hospital patients. Donald was in church on Easter Sunday. He returned to Camp Meade on May 1st after spending a 10 day furlough at his home. We are always glad to see you folks in church. Linville Hutchison has been a frequent visitor of late--in fact I think he was home from Camp Pickett three Sundays in succession--there seems to be a big attraction in town for him, however, I won't tell on him. Other familiar faces have been Harry Landis, who has been spending a 10 day furlough with his family, Ensign James Lauder, Bill Hayward, George Fertsch, Norman Kriebel, Roscoe Smith and Harold King. Harry Landis is located at Camp Maxey, Texas. Bill Hayward has been transferred from Massachusetts to Florida, ~~to Louisiana~~. Norman Kriebel left May 14th for Missoula, Montana after spending 10 days with his family. He has begun training to become what he calls a "smoke jumper". The term refers to a parachute jumper who is dropped from a plane to fight small fires in isolated spots. Norman is one of 60 volunteers chosen from all the C. O. camps in the country. In order to receive the appointment he was required to pass a very rigid physical examination. Nine of his friends have been selected for the same training. Their territory will include the national forests in Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Roscoe Smith is still located at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. His friend, Miss Eleanor Colquhoun, who is in the Waves, accompanied him the Sunday he attended church. Harold King was looking fine when he arrived home on his furlough. He and Charles arranged a get-to-gether in New Orleans a short time ago. Charles arrived home from Camp Van Dorn, Miss. soon after Harold left and returned May 8th after spending 10 days with his family. Frank seems to be enjoying himself while on desert maneuvers somewhere in California. "Gerry" Davis has been promoted to Staff Sergeant and expects to be leaving Tyndall Field, Fla. within a short time. Bill Little has been transferred from Alabama to the Lodwich School of Aeronautics, Lakeland, Fla. He has finished his pre-flight training and is now doing some flying.

On April 19th I received a letter from Charles McPhail who is located somewhere in New Guinea--the censor had cut out about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches of what I imagine was most interesting news for he had just started to tell some news about himself and their success in defeating the enemy at various places. We are glad to know that he is receiving the News Letters--he shares them with other boys. Since being in New Guinea he has met Frank Feno, who lives in West Ambler. Although the going has been very tough at times yet Charles feels that compared with what many of the boys have gone through, he has had a fairly easy time. His many friends here in Ambler are wishing him the best of luck. Since I began this letter I have received a second letter from Charles. It was dated April 7th and he had just received our February News Letter. He is hoping he will be able to locate Bud Ziegler in New Guinea. He has met some boys who live near Ambler. Charles reports that they have movies nearly every night--the natives are friendly and some speak English very well. The soldiers exchange and buy gifts from them--Charles states that some of the natives are very intelligent. We are glad to know that our News Letters are reaching the boys overseas.

Harry Crockett is now located at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

I know you will be sorry to hear that Sam Worthington has been suffering from chronic sciatica and has been in the hospital for treatment of same since March 29th. He is getting so used to laboratories, X-Rays, blood-counts, dieticians and the like that he is seriously considering starting his own hospital. All of his friends are wishing him a very speedy recovery. At the present time he is in Ward T-1101, Billings General Hospital, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

Both the Junior and Senior C. E. Societies met with the young people of the colored Methodist Church on North St. Sunday evening, May 9th. Rev. Dunsmore was the speaker. The C. E. Societies have been having some very enjoyable meetings recently. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore take an active part--they had a covered dish supper one Sunday evening and reported it a very delightful affair.

On May 2 at the Communion Service seventeen new members were welcomed into the church. Among those were Mr. and Mrs. Russell Tompkins, Jane and Richard who moved to Ambler from Lansdale a few months ago. Richard was unable to be present as he is now serving in the Merchant Marine. Another son Sgt. Russell K. Tompkins, Jr. has been in the North African battle area for some time. A few weeks ago he was reported first wounded, then missing and later a prisoner of the Italian Army. The latest word has come through the Roman Catholic Church in Italy. The message was brought to the Tompkins home by a priest from Philadelphia where the message had been relayed through officials of the church at Washington. Under a letter head of the Apostolic Delegation, United States of America, the message stated "The Apostolic Delegation has been requested by radiogram from the Cardinal's secretary of state to inform the Tompkins family at 162 Park Ave., Ambler that Sgt. Russell Kelsey Tompkins is safe and well in a transit camp for prisoners of war in Italy. As soon as indication of his permanent camp address is received, it will be forwarded to the family." The letter was signed by the Most Rev. Hugh L. Lamb of the Archdiocese of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Dunsmore was installed on Tuesday, May 18 at 8 P. M. in the church. Rev. Harold P. Melcher, Rev. J. Garrett Kell, Dr. Earl Douglass and Rev. George Crist assisted in the installation ceremonies.

Paul Ferla, U. S. N. has returned to Bainbridge, Md. after spending a nine day leave with his parents. His brother, Frank, is serving with the armed forces overseas.

Charles A. Willox was given a farewell party Sunday evening April 18th by the Nite Owl Motorcycle Club at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Erhardt. A few days before he left to enter the service he visited Pvt. "Winnie" Stong at Bedford, Mass. He made the trip by motorcycle and "Winnie" returned with him for a 72 hour furlough. "Winnie" Stong and Pvt. Francis Erhardt were among those present at the farewell party. Charles is now stationed at Camp Walters, Texas. Bob Rudolph has also entered the service. At the present time he is in the Station Hospital at Indiantown Gap.

Mrs. John Stackhouse, one of the oldest members of our church, passed away Saturday, May 8th. She had been critically ill for several weeks. Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 12 at 2:30 P. M.

Albert Volpe is now a Staff Sergeant. Philip Benigno is located at Ft. McClellan, Ala. Valdo Dragani is stationed at Camp Lee, Va. He and Dudley Deck, who is also at the same camp, have met on several occasions.

On April 17th Alfred Gorton had the misfortune to fall and break a bone in his ankle. His friends are glad to know that he is greatly improved at the present time, however, he will be unable to resume his work before the middle or last of June.

Alfred Martin has been promoted to Captain. He is in charge of the 61st Engineers' Combat Battalion at Miami, Fla. Bob Cassel's new address is New Orleans, La. Roy Cramer is located somewhere in the South Pacific. He is below the equator where it is very hot and the mosquitoes are very plentiful. According to latest reports Oscar Stillwagon is in the vicinity of Australia.

The new Senior C. E. officers are: President, Irma Umstead; Vice-President, John Rourke; Treasurer, Ruth Nice; and Secretary, Lillian Leslie.

Miss Christina Finley of Germantown left May 11th for California where she will be married to Wilson S. MacIntire in the very near future. Perhaps I will have more details in my next letter. Wilson is now located at Roosevelt Base, Terminal Island, Cal. He likes the state very much and between learning machine gunnery and more radio, finds time for fishing, swimming and tennis all of which he enjoys immensely.

Mrs. Theodore Henderson and children who have been spending several months with Dr. Henderson in No. Carolina have arrived home. On April 29 the Senior C. E. Society presented "Silent Movies of By-Gone Days" in the assembly hall of the church. The picture included one of Charlie Chaplin's early comedies. The proceeds went to Foreign missions.

P. F. C. George Camburn has been transferred from Atlantic City to State Teachers' College, Jonesboro, Arkansas. Mrs. George Deens and daughter have returned home after visiting Warrant Officer Deens in California. He is with the "Seabees" and at the present time is stationed at Camp Rousseau, Port Hueneme, Cal.

It is a pleasure to have a permanent pastor once more. Church activities have increased greatly since the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore who are keenly interested in all the church members and their enterprises. Mr. Dunsmore is interested in all of you and sends the following message:

MEDITATION - REV. NORMAN DUNSMORE

A true story is told by a man who while sailing in a small boat off the coast near Atlantic City was caught in a calm. Time passed, with no sign of wind. Finally he hailed a passing motorboat and asked for a tow. As they started off the backwash from the propeller almost capsized the sailboat, so that it was necessary to cut loose, and wait for the wind which soon came.

There is a lesson in that simple little story for all of us. Sometimes we rush out for some earthly means of getting us out of seeming trouble, and are brought into worse trouble than before. There are times when it is best to wait quietly upon God; to remember the words of the Psalmist, "Be still, and know that I am God."

In the hurry and rush and bustle, let us pause and seek to find peace--God's peace. Let us take time for God.

And now your Presbyterian Correspondent signs off until June with the words of Calvin Coolidge:

"Faith is the great motive power, and no man realizes his full possibilities unless he has the deep conviction That Life is Eternally Important and that his work well done is a Part of an Unending Plan."

Sincerely,

Helene R. Macomber

LETTER NO. 9

92 Bethlehem Pike
Ambler, Pa.
June 14, 1943

Dear

For several months two serious afflictions have been slowly creeping upon your correspondent; namely, Forgetfulness and Absent-mindedness. The latter is now in its final stages and the leading psychiatrists of Ambler, Broad Axe and Blue Bell report, after a careful diagnosis, that my only chance of rallying is to spend the summer months in Maine.

If there is any hope of my recovery I feel that I owe it to my family to do what is prescribed for me. My husband and son have been most tolerant ever since the King's Daughters News Letter came into existence. They have not reprimanded me even though I have done such silly things as put the ink in the ice-box, used liquid floor wax to whiten clothes, and mailed letters minus an address. Of late kitchen utensils have disappeared very mysteriously and often I have called the family to meals when there was no sign of food on the table. In spite of my remissness in carrying on my household duties, they have been loyal, understanding and good-natured through it all. You can readily see that drastic steps have to be taken immediately.

Speaking of absentmindedness reminds me of morons. I must take every precaution lest I be listed in that class. Did you hear about the moron who:

"Went to the flower shop to see a defense plant."

"Put his clock under his pillow so he could sleep over time."

"Joined the Army at Camp Swift so he could lead a fast life."

"Thought Manual Labor was a Mexican."

"Stayed up all night studying for a blood test."

"Didn't talk through a screen because he was afraid of straining his voice."

"Wouldn't eat rabbit because it had a hare in it."

"Put his head on the curb so he could get his mind out of the gutter."

"Had his teeth pulled so he could chew his gum."

"Pulled his eyes out so he could have a blind date."

The poor fellow had sadder experiences which I shall not relate.

In all seriousness, the News Letter will continue in my absence. I feel that it is a grand break for you to have new editors for the next two months. Certainly you have been very patient and tolerant during the past nine months. Since the high school is closed during the summer the Commercial Department will be unable to mimeograph the letters, however, our good friend, Mr. F. O. Hoyt, has purchased a mimeograph for the King's Daughters' Newsletter so you will continue to receive it during the summer as usual.

We are very grateful to Dorothy Umstead and Lillian Leslie who have kindly consented to type and help with the mimeographing of this letter. I know that you folks as well as the King's Daughters appreciate the service they are rendering.

I am looking forward to receiving the News Letter while on my vacation. Don't fail to keep us posted on your whereabouts and your activities. We are very grateful to those of you who have been so prompt in notifying us of changes in rank and address. It is a big help in keeping the files up to date. Mail will be greatly appreciated during my sojourn in the wilds of Maine. Please address my letters to 92 Bethlehem Pike, Ambler, as usual. My friends will see that they are forwarded to me. Again I want to thank you all for the many interesting letters you have written, -- your sincere gratitude and deep appreciation has more than repaid me for the many hours I have devoted to the News Letter.

The King's Daughters have been very grateful and appreciative also. The News Letter is a project of the entire group, however, because as editor and correspondent, I have devoted many hours to its preparation, the members feel that I deserve special consideration so on June 15th they are giving a party in my honor. I'm sorry I cannot give you the details in this letter, for I am sure it is going to be a very special occasion. For several weeks there have been mysterious and unfathomable activities going on. I am sorry that you folks cannot be present for the big event. I shall give you the details later.

I have found the King's Daughters to be a fine group of outstanding, loyal and energetic women whose aims and purposes are to develop Spiritual Life, Stimulate Christian Activities, Promote Church Unity and Christian Fellowship. You may be interested to know a few details concerning the history of the group which sponsors the News Letters:

Our circle is one of many in the International Order and was founded in 1911. It has a membership of 53. It is a religious society which recognizes no dividing lines whether of race, creed or social conditions among the children of God. Each circle chooses its own work - its activities vary according to the needs of the community and the church, the one requisite being that the work is the outgrowth of Christ's life in the heart and ministered in His name.

We hope by sending the monthly News Letter that we are rendering at least a small service to those in our church and many in our community who are making untold sacrifices for us back home in this time of upheaval and chaos.

And now for some High School News which will probably be the last until September:

Class Day Exercises were held May 21st in the school auditorium. The program was entitled "1943 Fun's-A-Poppin'" and as usual it was an evening of fun. Part one was on the more serious side. It began with the singing of the Alma Mater. Ralph Banes presented the welcome, after which Anne Illingworth and Herbert Luxton read the prophecy. The second part was in a much lighter vein and consisted of music, dancing and several original plays all of which were most entertaining and very enthusiastically received.

Graduation was held on June 8th. There were 90 in the class. The Baccalaureate Service was held June 6th. Both events took place in the school auditorium. Rev. Martin Tozer, pastor of the Upper Dublin Lutheran church preached the Baccalaureate Sermon entitled, "Life's Greatest Victory". Dr. William Mather Lewis, president of Lafayette College, was the commencement speaker. Betty Jane Rothenberger was awarded the \$1200 Beaver College Scholarship. Agnes Kourke and Ruth Mayer were each awarded an \$80 Temple Scholarship good for one year only. Abner Albertson won the \$800 Swarthmore College Scholarship.

George Miller was valedictorian of the graduating class. Nancy Brady was chosen salutatorian. Both have been very prominent in school activities. George plans to join the Marine Reserves after graduation and Nancy expects to attend the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

Mr. Angelo Menna has accepted a position with the American Red Cross and began his training June 7th. He expects to serve overseas.

Farewell kits were given to the fifty-six selectees of the Draft Board who left May 26th. The kits were made possible through members of the Sophomore Class who recently donated \$15.00 toward the project. Several members of the class were present at the Legion home to bid the men farewell.

Over eight hundred persons attended the 50th Anniversary celebration of the founding of Ambler High School which was held May 27th. Judge Knight and Congressman Ditter were the guest speakers. Other speakers included A. M. Kulp, Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools and William Faust, president of the Ambler Board of Education. Albert Langbein and Betty Bochner were the musical soloists of the evening. The high school orchestra and a special chorus assisted with appropriate musical selections. A service flag honoring 310 High School Alumni in the service was dedicated. Members of the Alumni Association participated in the anniversary and dedication programs. Service men, who were in the audience were in-

vited to the stage to assist in the dedication ceremonies. Lt. Richard Mears, U.S. Navy, Class of '24, spoke in behalf of the Alumni.

The engagement of Miss Bernice Boyles to Mr. William Penn Lodge of Harvey Cedars, N. J. has been announced. The wedding will take place in the near future.

"Ed" Zerbenski, who took first place in the pole vault and high jump at the Southeastern Pennsylvania District meet held on May 22, now holds the State record in the high jump for high schools of Ambler's class. The State Meet was held at the Altoona High School on May 29. The original record for the high jump was 5 ft. 11 inches. Zerbenski's new record is 5 ft. 11 3/8 inches.

Here is some Local News for you:

Fifty-six men selected from the Local Draft Board left May 26th to enter the service. Among them were Earl Buzby, Bob Kern, Joseph Lamelza, Owen Ribble, James Clayville, Norman Mortimer, Samuel Jago, Adolph Lindquist, Frank Bruno, Bill Cressman, Harold Naudasher, Larry Manogue, Michael Camasso, Edward Kerns, Stephen Mallozzi, Norman Buler, George Lightkep, Joseph Rocchino, Francis Gray and Bill Singer.

On May 22nd, the marriage of Miss Bernice Ruth Walters and Ralph W. Schwager took place at the St. John's Lutheran Church. Miss Dorothy Goldberg was maid of honor. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Albert Walters, Jr., of the U.S. Marines now stationed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. The bridegroom is a private in the Marine Corps stationed at Atlantic Field, N. C. Both men wore dress uniforms of light blue trousers and dark blue jackets. The best man was Second Lieutenant Joseph O. Niblock, who has recently graduated from the Big Spring Bombardier School, West Texas.

Staff Sgt. Walter Zerbenski has received his wings as an ^{aerial} ~~arior~~ engineer on one of the flying fortresses. He is stationed at Sioux City, Iowa. Seaman second class John Kayser, who enlisted in October, 1942, has recently been assigned to an airplane carrier, the "Yorktown", following his training at Bainbridge, Md. Mr. and Mrs. John Huber of New Jersey, formerly of Ambler, are being congratulated upon the birth of a son. Melvin James has been promoted to private first class. He is stationed overseas and has recently celebrated his twenty-first birthday. The marriage of Miss Mercedes Catanzaro and John Markland took place on May 22, at the Calvary Methodist Church. Miss Vera Haff has arrived safely in England.

A memorial page in memory of Kenneth Heywood, who was killed in a naval engagement, will be dedicated by the Ladies Auxiliary of the William Boulton Dixon Post, Fort Washington, in the American Legion Annual. Kenneth was a member of the William Boulton Dixon Post Drum and Bugle Corps. Special tribute was paid to Kenneth at the Memorial Day services held at Fort Hill.

Pvt. Francis Erhardt, with two of his buddies from Ft. Belvoir, Va. recently spent a weekend with his parents. Pvt. James Rainey of Ft. Benning, Ga. and Pvt. Walter Dummeldinger of Chanute Field, Ill., have been spending short furloughs at their home. Donald Betts has returned to Nashville, Tenn. after spending a few days at his home. Leonard Sabella, seaman second class, has been home on leave following completion of his basic training at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Sampson, N. Y. In a recent letter "Tuck" Deck said, "I'm still touring Africa in my little jeep--Don't stay long enough in one place to get comfortable."

Sgt. Tom Weaver is located in Hawaii. Since March 1942 he has been the Division chaplain's assistant of the 27th Infantry Division. He is kept busy with his secretarial and administrative duties. He was inducted into the army January 31, 1941 and has not been home for nearly two years. After having been through two maneuvers, one in Tennessee and the other in Louisiana and Arkansas, Tom was sent to California immediately after which war was declared. From there he was sent to the Hawaiian Islands. He witnessed the eruption of the volcano Mauna Loa and describes it as a beautiful show. He has visited many of the noted resorts and just between you and me I think he is managing to have a swell time. According to Tom the Hawaiian lassies don't have to take a back seat when it comes to dancing. They can "dig, jive and jitterbug" when the Army and Navy Bands start playing the popular numbers. By the way dancing is one of the chief forms of recreation for the boys.

Harley Smith is to be congratulated on his recent promotion. He enlisted last November and is now an aviation student at State College, Mississippi.

Terrence Cassidy has won his Navy wings of gold and is now an Ensign in the Naval Reserve. P.F.C. Donald Stillwagon is being held a prisoner in Germany according to word received from the International Red Cross. He enlisted in January, 1942 and left this country in September, 1942. Lt. Robert R. Smith, former Ambler physician, is now stationed at the School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas. He is studying to be a Flight Surgeon and likes the work very much.

Eddie Sage has completed his pre-flight training and has been selected to train for a bombardier. He celebrated his 21st birthday on May 20th. At the present time he is located at Nashville, Tenn. Capt. and Mrs. Earl Matson have recently spent a 10 day furlough with their families. He is located at Ft. Benning, Ga. Donald Rohr has been promoted to Corporal. Mrs. William Bruckel, the former Miss Jane Morgan, is visiting in Ambler at the present time.

About eight weeks ago "Lenny" Arnold, pre-war midget auto racer of Butler Pike, suffered a torn lung caused by heavy lifting. A clot of blood formed in the left lung and his heart was forced out of place. He was admitted to Rush Hospital and reports from attending physicians showed that only minutes remained to save his life. He is now recuperating at his home. It will probably be eight months or a year before he can return to his work.

Francis A. Gloster, Jr. of Prospectville, and Marie Mason of Lansdale, two young dancers, recently performed with a group of entertainers before a large audience of soldiers at Fort Dix. Leroy Miller, the Musical Clocker, was master of ceremonies for the show. Marie and Franny sang a song and presented several dance selections. They have appeared on the Steel Pier, Atlantic City and at numerous entertainments in the North Penn Valley. Radcliffe Allen, who is serving with the signal corps at Fort Dix, N. J., has been promoted to corporal.

Sgt. Paul Raser has graduated from the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School, Kingman, Arizona. P.F.C. Frederick Reumann has been appointed Corporal Technician in the Medical Department of the U. S. Army. Charles Wittman, who is located in Australia has been promoted to Private First Class. Earle A. Leech, Jr. has recently graduated from the airplane mechanics school at Sheppard Field, Texas. Miss Evelyn Kulp of Lansdale and Corporal Garland Childs of Spring House were married April 24 at Tulsa, Okla. where Garland was attending the Spartan School. He has since been transferred to an Army air school in Indiana.

Merrill Godshall has completed his basic training at Sampson, N. Y. and is now a seaman second class. He recently spent a few days at home before going to his new assignment. Lt. Carl Lorenz, who is in the U.S. Navy, is now stationed in California. Sgt. Harry Dickinson, who is with the Army air forces at Miami Beach, has been spending a 15 day furlough at his parents home. Edmund Roesch has been visiting his parents and will soon be inducted into the army. The Norton Downs Jr. Post of the American Legion reports that three veterans of the present war have been added to the membership list - Joseph Walmsley, Harold Groff, and Rocco Costa. Bob Lutz, located at Camp Maxey, Texas, is now a corporal. Eddie Halligan looked wonderful when he was home on a furlough a few weeks ago. He is a sergeant in the U.S. Marines and has seen much action in the Guadalcanal theater of war. He was wearing several ribbons and decorations.

Miss June Corson was one of twenty-six graduated from Beaver College on May 15th. She received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. P.F.C. "Buck" Johnson has qualified as an Army Air Force technician, recently completing intensive training in Aircraft Inspection and Maintenance at the Army Air Force's Technical Training Command School at Curtiss Wright Technical School, located at Los Angeles. At the present time, he is stationed at Ft. Myers, Florida. 2nd Lt. Cliff Martin has finished his training at Randolph Field, Texas, and has returned to Craig Field, Selma, Ala. as an instructor.

Dr. Brister has received word that Jack was killed in North Africa on April 27th. Jack had been in the thick of battle since early fall of 1941 and had been wounded three times. A few days before receiving word of Jack's death, Dr. Brister had a letter from him stating that activities had let up a bit and that he, with his unit, was returning to England in the near future to rest. He was 23 years old and was serving with the King's Royal Rifle

Corps of England. No doubt you remember that he was one of three Dartmouth students to join the British Regiment in June 1941. His rank was that of Lieutenant. I understand that Jack and Andy Dressler had met on several occasions. Richard Brister is now serving with the U. S. Coast Guard.

Bobby Gates, stationed at the Army Air Base, Ephrata, Washington, has been promoted to Staff Sergeant. Bill Dummeldinger is now located at Tacoma, Wash. Joseph and Bill Ball are serving in Guadalcanal. "Joey" has been in the hospital for several weeks suffering with tropical fever. Second Lt. Joseph Niblock has been spending a short furlough at his home after receiving his Bombardier Wings. He was one of 28 men who recently graduated from the West Texas Bombardier Triangle Schools. He is now located at Wendover Field, Utah, at the new U. S. Army Air Base. It is located on the great salt flats and is one of the nation's most important training centers for heavy bomber crews.

The annual Memorial Day parade in Ambler sponsored by the Norton Downs Jr. Post No. 125 American Legion was marked with deep patriotic feeling and solemnity because of the present world-wide conflict. Many attended the Service which followed the parade. Ambler's oldest citizen and only Civil War veteran, George Wood, 96, of Walnut St. was present. Because of weakness due to a recent illness he did not address the group--simply waved an acknowledgment when he was introduced to the audience.

Corporal Frederick Serral, is one of four members of the First Marine Raider battalion to receive commendation for devotion to duty during the Japanese attack at Guadalcanal on September 8. He and two other Marines were assigned to operate a radio which was the only means of communication between a raider battalion and the First Marine Division. "Their exceptional devotion to duty resulted in the maintenance of communication with the division" the citation said. Serral saw a great deal of intensive action in the Guadalcanal theater.

Mary Dickinson who is serving with the Waves, and two sailors, John Hughes of Canton, Ohio and Warren Blackburn of Philadelphia, assisted in the Service Flag Dedication held in Prospectville on Memorial Day.

Francis Gray of Gwynedd who recently left to enter the service is with the U. S. Marines as is his brother, Bill. Both are at Parris Island, S. C. S/Sgt. Bill Gray has been in the Marine Corps since October 1939. In previous letters I told you about the serious injuries he received in December as the result of an automobile accident. He was confined to the U. S. Naval Hospital for four months and did not return to active duty until May 10th. Francis was married on March 4 to Miss Flora Schlater.

"Bud" Dailey recently enjoyed a furlough at home. His many friends were happy to see him. He likes ~~it~~ at Barksdale Field very much. "Ted" Dailey has left Miller Field, Staten Island for parts

unknown. "Pete" Gironde is now a Corporal Technician and is attending radio school at a camp in Georgia. Parry Weiss and Donald Meng, reported at Ft. Meade, Md., on May 28th. Both boys were in the R. O. T. C. at State College.

Leroy Davies leaves June 18th to be sworn into the Navy. The engagement of Miss Elaine Baker of Gallatin, Tenn. to Lt. John S. Berwind, Jr. has been announced. Lt. Berwind, who is in the U. S. Army Air Forces, is stationed at Lemoore Flying Field, Lemoore, California. He met Miss Baker at an officers' dance last fall while he was on maneuvers in Tennessee. She plans to fly to Fresno, Cal., in the near future where the wedding will take place.

Corporal Bruno Facos, a member of the U. S. Army Air Forces, whose squadron received a presidential citation for "outstanding performance of duty in action", is spending a 30 day furlough in Ambler where he formerly resided. This is the first furlough he has had in his three years overseas duty. He came safely through the destruction of Hickam Field, Hawaii on December 7, 1941, the day of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. After being stationed at Hickam Field for two years, he was transferred to other places in the South Pacific. While serving in Hawaii he met two of his friends from Ambler High School, Carl Caputo and Joseph Monaco. His brother, Albert, is serving with the Signal Corps in Canada.

Here are some new definitions of words which are familiar to all of us:

Conference is a group of men who, individually, can do nothing, but as a group can meet and decide that nothing can be done.

A Statistician is a man who draws a mathematically precise line from an unwarranted assumption to a foregone conclusion.

A Professor is a man whose job it is to tell students how to solve the problems of life which he himself has tried to avoid by becoming a professor.

A Consultant is a man who knows less about your business than you do and gets paid more for telling you how to run it than you could possibly make out of it even if you ran it right instead of the way he told you to.

An Expert is an ordinary guy who is a long way from home.

Have you heard this one:

"Two patients were waiting in a doctor's office. In an effort to make conversation, one said, "I'm aching from neuritis." "Glad to know you," was the reply, "I'm Thompson of Chicago."

Here's another:

Teacher: "Name three collective nouns."

Tommy: "Fly-paper, waste-basket and vacuum cleaner."

Did this happen at your camp?

Corporal: "Gee, the Captain sure is mad today!"

Sergeant: "Why?"

Corporal: "Cause he got a letter marked, 'Private'."

Now for some Sport Jottings:

The baseball games continue to be well attended. On May 16th a crowd of 30,823, second largest in National League history in this city, watched the Phillies and St. Louis Cardinals split a baseball doubleheader. The Cards won the first game, 4-3 in 11 innings but the Phillies came back to take the second, 2-1. Evidently if the fans are given a ball club that has a fifty-fifty chance to win and the games played when they have a chance to attend, they'll get there even if they have to go by trolley or walk.

Before 37,176 spectators, the largest crowd ever to watch a National League game in Philadelphia, the Phillies closed their best home stay in 20 years, splitting a doubleheader with the Pittsburgh Pirates on May 23rd. It was estimated that 5000 fans were turned away when the gates closed at 2 P. M. Pittsburgh won the first game 4-1. The Phillies won the second 5-2. More than 145,000 attended the home stay of the club which started May 7. The attendance on May 23rd topped all gate records in 60 years of Phillies' existence. They feel that the fans are with them--who knows, maybe they will be pennant winners this year.

The annual Major League All-Star baseball game will be staged in Shibe Park the night of July 13th. All the proceeds of the game will be turned over to the Baseball Equipment Fund for our armed forces. Joe McCarthy will manage the American League team and Billy Southworth will manage the National Leaguers. The Phillies have traded Danny Litwhiler and Earl Naylor to the cards in exchange for Herman Triplet, Dain Clay and Elvin (Buster) Adams. Many of the fans resent the sale of Litwhiler, however, Bucky Harris is confident that the Phillies got a better trade than the cards. Another trade which took place on their western trip was that of Clay for Charley Brewster. He will play short stop. Carl Hubbell, 39 year old veteran of the Giants, won his 250th victory on June 6th.

Mrs. Jimmy Foxx has been granted a divorce. Jimmy is now a traveling salesman for a leather company. Connie Mack has signed Bert Kuczynski to play with the Athletics. In addition to being captain of Penn's baseball team he was captain of the 1942 football team. Signing with the A's was an exciting graduation present as he has always wanted to play professional baseball. He is a member of the Marine Corps Reserve and is subject to immediate call so no knowing how long he will be able to play. He is the first Penn baseball player to be signed by a big league club since 1934. Even though his college record as an out fielder was more impressive than as a pitcher, yet Mack has taken him as a pitcher. He is six feet three and weighs 195 lbs.

Bing Crosby and Bob Hope made a big hit when they were in Philadelphia on May 21st to stage a golf match at the Llanerch Country Club. Six thousand movie fans braved the rain to witness the match and were so enthusiastic that it was impossible to keep them off the fairways and greens--as a result it was a five hole rather than eighteen hole event and most of the fans were engaged in a football scrimmage before the afternoon was over. The proceeds went to the Navy League--\$130,525 in Bonds were purchased--a ball autographed by the four players in the match brought \$25,000. Both Bob and Bing were at their best when it came to gags. Bing surely takes quite a kidding when it comes to horses. He apologized for being late at the golf match saying, "one of my horses was dying and it was the first chance I ever had to see one finish."

Sweden's record-breaking runner Gunder Haegg arrived in New York by plane on June 7th from New Orleans where he debarked from the Tanker Saturnus on June 5th. He was met by Greg Rice who is expected to furnish him formidable competition.

Ensign Hugh Cannon of the Staten Island Naval Base, on June 5th shattered the world's discus record with a toss of 174 ft. 10 1/8 in. in the Metropolitan A. A. U. Track and Field championships.

Lt. Commander Harvey Harman has been appointed to succeed Lt. Colonel Berrie Bierman as the Iowa Pre-Flight athletic director. Lt. Commander Jim Crowley is now in charge of a recreation program at a base near Guadalcanal in the South Pacific. Ensign Cornelius Warner, world's greatest pole vaulter, cleared 15 feet or better for the 37th time of his career on May 29th at the annual Pacific Association track and field championships.

George Munger, Penn football coach has been walking with a cane. While working in his victory garden recently, he hit his knee with a sledge hammer. William (Navy Bill) Ingram, 46, a great Navy football player who became head coach of the U. S. Naval Academy and the University of California, died June 2nd of a heart attack. He was a major in the Procurement branch of the U. S. Marine Corps. The Penn-Michigan football game scheduled for October 2nd has been cancelled. A movement has been launched to bring the 1943 Army-Navy football game back to Philadelphia, if the two academies meet in the fall.

You may enjoy the following if you have not already heard them:

Grandpa Wize says, "the average one-horse town would be sitting pretty today if it had the horse."

"Just fancy that!" exclaimed the proud mother, "they've promoted our Herbert for hitting the sergeant. They've made him a court-martial!"

Small boy: "Daddy, do lawyers tell the truth?"

Father: "Why of course, son. Lawyers will do almost anything to win a case."

You may be interested in the following State and National news:

Major Kermit Roosevelt, 53, son of President Theodore Roosevelt died June 4th while on Army duty in Alaska. Edsel Ford, president of the Ford Motor Company and only son of Henry Ford, died on May 26th. He was 49 years old and had been ill for many months although his condition did not become critical until May 16th. He was made president of the Ford Company in 1919. He had many of the physical characteristics of his father. He was of serious appearance, of average height, slender and of wiry build. He did not always see eye-to-eye with the elder Ford on matters of business policy, but there was a deep-rooted bond of affection between them. It may have been coincidence or just "force of circumstances" but the Ford Motor Company dated from the time Edsel Ford became its president and treasurer. He was largely responsible for the interest taken by his father in aviation and persuaded him to undertake the development of airplane manufacturing. One of the most recent financial statements of the Ford Company listed its assets in excess of \$718,000,000. He was a devotee of motorboating, automobile racing, golf, photography and an ardent baseball fan. Henry Ford, who will be 80 years old July 30th, has taken over, for a second time, the direction of the company he founded.

Dr. Margaret D. Craighill, dean of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, has been commissioned a major in the Army Medical Corps.— The first woman to be so honored. Mrs. Ruth Phillips of Brooklyn is learning the technique of driving a trolley. There are 13 women motormen in the class at the school. Philadelphians will soon see a number of women working on trolley cars as "motormen" and conductors. They will replace men who have joined the armed forces and will wear snappy cadet blue uniforms with visored caps and shoulder bags.

The month of May was the wettest in 10 years. During the month, there was a total rainfall of 5.56 inches. It looks as if June would break another record. As a result, some of the victory gardens look rather woebegone. Everyone, young and old, has made big plans for gardens this season.

That reminds me of Fred Perley who appears each evening in the Evening Bulletin. In a recent issue, he was shown in the cellar with his lumber and tools laboring under difficulties. It seems that "he hasn't got around to planting his victory garden because he has been too busy building shelves down cellar to hold all the stuff he expects his wife to can if he gets around to planting his victory garden." I imagine there are many suburban commuters who know how to sympathize with him.

Fritz Kreisler, the violinist, became an American citizen on May 28. He was born in Vienna, 1875, but his naturalization papers listed him as a citizen of France.

On Memorial Day a crowd of 18,000 persons packed the Big Top on the opening day and 60th anniversary of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. The afternoon crowd of 11,000 set a new attendance record for Philadelphia openings. There were two innovations this year, the first and most obvious being the return of the old fashioned Ringling type six-pole tent, providing space for three rings, two stages and a hippodrome track. Secondly, Philadelphia was chosen as the first city to start the nation-wide tour under canvas. It had performed previously at New York and Boston but indoors. Another change was the new location at "G" St. between Erie and Wyoming Aves. instead of the traditional location at 11th St. and Erie where this year a storage of rubber for salvage prevented the circus from moving in.

Leslie Howard, famed British actor-producer was one of 13 passengers aboard an unarmed British commercial plane enroute to London from Lisbon, which was shot down June 1st by enemy action. Allied diplomats immediately suggested that the attack was an Axis attempt to kill Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Dr. Allen Roy Dafce, the country physician who gained world fame by attending the Dionne quintuplets at their birth 9 years ago, died June 2nd of pneumonia. He was 60 years of age. The quintuplets were deeply moved when told of his death.

The thermometer registered 94° at 5 P. M. June 4th, making it the hottest day of the season. We had a three day heat wave which blistered and scorched Philadelphia and its environs.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill flew home June 5th by way of North Africa from the Washington war council at which full accord was reached on a future allied course on all fronts.

Eleven year old A. Lewis Hutchinson, Jr. was killed June 6th by a .22 caliber rifle accidentally discharged by William Donner Roosevelt, grandson of the President, when he tripped over the gun, which was leaning against a wall. Both boys attended Episcopal Academy and had been the best of friends during the past four years. The American Theater Wing is opening a London annex to the Stage Door Canteen in New York.

On June 1st a herd of sheep was driven onto the Hershey Park Golf Course in a move to keep the grass short without using manpower for mowing it. A shepherd was assigned to the herd of 100 sheep and 75 yearlings and lambs--he was given instructions to keep them off the 18 greens when the ground is soft. At night the sheep will be taken to a farm near the golf course.

Thirteen persons were killed and more than seventy-five injured in a train wreck near Camden shortly after 10 P. M. May 23rd. An engine and six cars of a crack Pennsylvania Railroad train enroute from Atlantic City to New York left the tracks at Delair, N. J. and overturned. Mrs. William Howard Taft, who during her 81 years saw her husband become President and then Chief Justice of the United States died on May 22nd. She was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. John Edward Zimmerman, chairman of the board of the United

Gas Improvement Co., died May 30th. He was 69 years old and was known as one of the country's leading public utility engineers.

And finally comes the news of the Church and the Church family:

A Couples' Club has been organized. The first meeting was held on June 4th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leidy Heckler. An interesting program was arranged, and refreshments were served. Fourteen couples attended. All the younger couples of the church and couples who are friends of the church have been invited to join.

You should see Mr. Sailer's Victory Garden. Without a doubt, it is one of the finest in town. He is very proud of it and rightly so. His friends were quite envious when they found he had picked peas from his garden the last of May.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Edward Reber of West Point, New York have moved into their new home in Elliger Park. Mrs. Reber is the former Miss Betty Eckfeldt. Harry Landis, who is at Camp Maxey, Texas, has been promoted to private first class. P.F.C. George Cramer, who is a coach on the Rifle Range at the Marine Base, Parris Island, S. C., has recently spent 10 days with his family. Life in the Marines must agree with him for he never looked better. He is very enthusiastic about his work. Georgé Fertsch is another who was in the best of health when home on a furlough, a few weeks ago. He has recently been transferred from the New Orleans Army Air Base to Keesler Field, Miss. On June 1st, he was promoted to Sergeant. Mrs. George Schaufler has been appointed director of the North Penn Community Center to succeed Miss Mae Garrett, who has held that position for the past two and one-half years.

Rev. Joseph Ewing of Fresno, Calif. has accepted a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Barbara, Calif. The church has a membership of 1200. Mr. and Mrs. Ewing and daughter Nancy will move to Santa Barbara, July 1st. Dr. Henderson, who is a captain in the Army Medical Corps., has arrived safely in North Africa. Sgt. Gerry Davis is now located at Barksdale Field, La. He, like the other boys who have been stationed there, reports it to be a grand place. Gerry is now a flight engineer. He has 15 hours stick time to his credit. Russell Huckel entered the service on June 2nd. He is stationed at Ft. Dix, N. J.

The eight months old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Crockett, Jr., died Sunday, May 23rd. Mrs. Herman Elder, Thomas Elder and George Miller joined the church on June 6th. We are happy to have them in our church family. P.F.C. Harold King and Bob Cassel are among those who have left for unknown destinations. Both Charles and Frank King are now privates first class. Charles, who is at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., is doing secretarial work for the general. Harvey Eisenhard left June 10th to be sworn into the Navy. James Clayville is now stationed at Camp Campbell, Kentucky. Miss Christina Finley of Germantown and Wilson MacIntire were married May 17th at Long Beach, California. They hope to be located at Long Beach for the next two months after which Wilson expects to leave for active duty.

Julia Ann Eckfeldt was among the graduates at the 73rd Annual Wilson College Commencement Exercises on May 31st. Julia Ann was awarded Pentathalon Honors, highest athletic award in the gift of Wilson College. To be eligible for this one must have participated in five campus sports, attained recognition in three, qualified as a swimmer, and won at least 100 points as a recipient of class numerals, the "W", and the Wilson emblem. In addition she must have exemplified the best principles of sportmanship not only on the playing field but also in every phase of her college life.

On May 29th at 4 o'clock Miss Catherine Weikel of Line Lexington became the bride of Harold Moore, Jr. of Spring House. The ceremony took place at the St. John's Reformed Church in Lansdale. For the present, they will make their home with her parents. Hugh Bullard has been transferred to Brookings, South Dakota.

Mr. I. K. B. Hansell has resigned as Treasurer of the church after serving in that capacity for 30 years. Mr. Ralph H. Drew has been elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. James Snyder has been appointed Financial Secretary to replace Mr. Harry L. Hutchison who recently resigned.

Norman Kriebel, who is now located at Camp Paxson, Seeley Lake, Montana, has begun his training with the smoke jumpers' unit of the U.S. Forest Service. As I told you in my last letter, the smoke jumpers are parachutists who fight forest fires in remote areas of the Northwest which can only be reached quickly by airplane. The unit is composed entirely of volunteers selected from several hundred applicants in the Civilian Public Service Camps. Each member is an experienced fire-fighter. For the past year Norman has been stationed at Coleville, California, in the Mono National Forest. Previously he had spent 9 months at Marion, N. C. in the Pisgah National Forest. His present training is being carried on in the Lolo National Forest North of Missoula, Montana. The instructor is Frank Derry, nationally known stunt parachutist, Hollywood jumper, chute designer and the world's pioneer smoke jumper. To complete the training each man is required to make seven practice jumps with at least one landing in a tree top. Upon completion of the training, the latter part of this month, the group will be dispersed in five or six small units throughout Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Sam Worthington expected to visit his friends in Ambler around the first of June before going to a new assignment. He has not arrived as yet, however, we are hoping we shall see him within a few days. Paul Ferla is located at Bainbridge, Md. He is a musician second class and his band work keeps him very busy during the day. In spite of that he manages to keep in touch with his many friends in Ambler. Charles Wagner writes that he enjoys his copies of the News Letter. He is stationed in England and finds his associations with the British people very enjoyable. He has visited in London on several occasions. He has been away from Ambler for 19 months.

Lt. "Bob" Davis recently spent a few days with his family. He is now located at Camp Davis, N. C., where he is taking an advanced course which requires hours of intensive study. Mrs. Dunsmore and son, Norman, have been spending a few days with her parents in Wellsboro, Pa. Mr. Dunsmore manages to keep good natured in spite of having to keep bachelor's quarters. Although he is of Scotch descent yet he enjoys scotch jokes as well as the rest of us. The following three stories which he recently gave me illustrate his sense of humor:

I think you will like the story of the Scottish Minister who fell into a large hole that had been dug to reach a water main. Unable to climb out, he called for help. A passing member of his Church heard the cries and came and looked down at him, and when he saw who it was he said: "Keep quiet, mon. This is only Wednesday, and they'll no be needing you in the Kirk till Sunday."

I think you will also enjoy the one about the three Scots who went to Church, and when the collection was announced, one fainted, and the other two carried him out!

If you have not chuckled yet maybe a third time will be lucky. A Scot went to a bazaar where chances were being taken on a pony and cart. Somehow the Scot was persuaded to take a sixpenny chance (a dime) and he won. But he looked rather glum, and a friend asked him what was the matter. "Oh," said Sandy, "I knew there was a catch in it."

"A catch - why, didn't you win the pony and cart?"

"Aye - I did - but where's the whip?"

Pvt. Philip Benigno is assigned to the military police and is located at Ft. McClellan, Alabama. Pvt. Bob Rudolph is now stationed at Camp Sibert, Alabama. Rev. Charles Platt has recently received a doctor's degree from Temple University. Miss Mae Rynear, after many years of long and faithful service, will retire at the end of the school year.

P.F.C. Robert Compton has been awarded the Purple Heart Decoration after having been wounded in action on April 24 during the North African Campaign. Robert was drafted in June, 1942, and received his initial training at Ft. Meade, Md. He arrived in Africa December, 1942. Harvey Heath and Dick Carson have to report at Allentown on June 18th to take a physical exam for the army. Mrs. Frederick Martin of Three Tuns left June 7th to visit her son Capt. Alfred Martin who is stationed at Miami, Florida.

I know that you will be glad to hear from Rev. Dunsmore again. He sends the following:

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR MINISTER

Paul the Apostle tells us that the gospel is like dynamite - that it is spiritual TNT. It is "the power of God unto Salvation" -

and, after all, what is more important than that? Jesus said, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Sometimes it is hard for us to realize that the things that affect our spiritual life--our souls--are after all our every day thoughts, words, and actions. "There are two things that we should beware of: that we never be ashamed of the gospel, and that we may never be a shame to it."

Let us use the power there is in our faith, and be true Christian soldiers unashamed of our Lord!"

In helping our country in this job of winning the war let us not forget our duty to the church. In helping to win the battle of freedom we must support the church which holds aloft the greatest ideal of life that is known to men. We have a challenge and responsibility. The victory and the peace in the future world depends on you and me.

Even though I shall not be writing the News Letter in July and August I shall be thinking of you and wishing you the best of luck.

And now your Presbyterian correspondent signs off reminding you that the Star of Hope still shines brightly above the clouds of war.

Sincerely,

Helen R. Macomber