

With the Colors

1929/42

Ordnance Military Training division, Aberdeen Proving ground, Maryland, October 19.—Among the thousands of men recently inducted into the service of the United States and assigned to the Ordnance department is Richard A. Hunzinger of Sainte Marie. The Ordnance Military Training division is charged with the mission of supplying the entire Army with trained Ordnance personnel.

Soldiers selected for the Ordnance department may consider themselves particularly fortunate, in view of the fact that it is one of the most technical branches of the Army. Here men are taught maintenance in the field of all the fighting tools of the using troops. Supply and maintenance from the pistol and revolver to the tremendous coast defense weapons, bombs and other armament for our Air Forces and all numerous other fighting vehicles, devolve upon Ordnance personnel.

New soldiers upon arrival at Aberdeen are quickly formed into training companies, where they must go through the school of the soldier period. Here he is taught for four weeks the fundamentals every soldier must know—defensive and offensive protection, chemical warfare, sanitation, discipline, and many kindred subjects. He has been under the close scrutiny of his officers and the classification officer and at the end of four weeks he starts on his technical training.

In the technical training section the new soldier is placed where his experience and aptitude best fit him; among the sections are the following: Small arms, tank, automotive and artillery mechanics and kindred to these are their co-workers, leather workers, instrument repairmen, and many other skilled workers.

These new men quickly realize their importance and work with only one thought in mind: "That a tank or gun repaired on the front line and returned to immediate service against an enemy is worth hundreds coming off production lines thousands of miles away."

Only two per cent of the men in the Army can hope to be assigned to the Ordnance department where, due to their importance, rank and ratings are higher than in any other branch and the field commanders fully realize that good maintenance of what he has in the field will win many battles.

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David Maxwell, son of George Maxwell of Newton, writes Ray E. Everly of the local recruiting office for the United States Navy, that he was

sworn in as a seaman first class at Indianapolis, Friday.

Thomas Newsome and Orla Houser who are in "boot camp" at San Diego, California, write that they like the Navy fine. Tom says "They are sure clean in the Navy." The inspecting officer wears white gloves and everything must be spotless on inspection. Orla writes that he may take up "gunnery" as he is interested in that phase of Navy training.

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Private Eugene Hubert Hartrich, who recently volunteered for the United States Army, is stationed at Camp Stewart, Georgia. He writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Hartrich of Sainte Marie, as follows: "I am in the Coast Artillery, anti-aircraft division. Our officers are swell guys and the 'chow' is fine. Army life is o. k. with me; hope everything at home is as well with you as it is with me. If I come home with a southern accent you know where I picked it up."

Corporal Ferdinand Lawrence Hartrich, Eugene's older brother, who has been in the service a year, is stationed at Camp Bowie, Texas, with Battery F, Seventy-Seventh Field Artillery. He is studying instrument firing in the field artillery.

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The promotion of Private Lawrence X. Rubsam, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rubsam of Newton, to be a corporal in the service at Fort Bliss, Texas, was announced Monday by the Public Relations office. The promotion is effective at once, and comes in recognition of his meritorious application to duty. Corporal Rubsam is a member of the Tenth Special Service unit.

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Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Bixler of near Newton are in receipt of a letter from their son, Fay Bixler, a bombardier on a flying fortress in the United States Army Air Force in England, dated September 27. He said that he was well and was receiving the Press regularly. "There was more news in one issue than all the letters you wrote," he added. He indicated he may have seen some flying but wasn't allowed to give any details.

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Leland Conley, who has been in the United States Army for the past six months, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben F. Conley of Newton.

Private Louis E. Mascher, who is an instructor in the Signal Corps school at Chicago, was at home over the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Mascher of Newton.

Mr. and Mrs. Quincy Allison of Tuscola are the parents of a seven pound, ten ounce son, born Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Allison of Newton are grand-parents.