



With the Colors

Jan. 26, 1943

Corporal John Maxwell, Army Cook here on furlough from 68th Armored regiment, Sixth Armored division, Camp Young, California, contributes this poem:

Buck Private's Prayer

Oh Lord, in Thy mercy, please list to my plea;

Though I'm only one, there are thousands like me.

We're subject to orders from high rank and low;

Wherever they send us, we're destined to go.

We do all the drill, the labor, and, Lord,

The cost of real pleasure we cannot afford.

We grin and we bear it, we give, never take,

So I'm asking Thee, Lord, to give us a break.

We don't want the world with a fence, for our own;

We don't ask for luxuries we've never known;

We don't want to fight, but we will if we must,

And stick to the end for a cause that is just.

We do want respect (that sometimes we lack),

A chance to be noticed, a part of the plan,

That makes for the right and the freedom of man.

Please make the hardtack a little less hard. . . .

A little less K. P., a little less guard,

A little less work, a little more play,

A little less drill, a little more pay,

A few less crabbing, a little more fun;

And let it be known, Lord, they'd be out of luck,

Without the one soldier nicknamed "The Buck."

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Great Lakes, January 25.—Just a “boot” now, but soon to be moulded into a fighting Bluejacket, Billie J. Wilson, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel G. Wilson of Newton, has reported to the world’s largest Naval Training Station here to begin his basic training.

Here he will receive several weeks of vigorous physical conditioning and be indoctrinated in the fundamentals of seamanship and Naval procedure. As an important part of his program, he will take a series of aptitude tests designed to aid in assigning him to the type of work for which he is best qualified.

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Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, January 25.—Private William E. Whalin, who joined the United States Army on December 15, 1942, at Newton, has arrived at Camp Chaffee, where he is assigned to the Fourteenth Armored division. Private Whalin is a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Whalin of Rose Hill vicinity.

The Fourteenth, which was activated, November 15, is commanded by Major General Vernon E. Prichard and is one of the newest of the hard hitting armored divisions to be organized by the Army. Camp Chaffee is near Fort Smith, Arkansas.

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Private Donald Dufrain writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Dufrain of Newton, from Camp Hulen, Texas, that there are nine boys from near Newton at Camp Hulen and four from Greenup. He advises all men about to be called to the service to climb fences and hop over hay ricks, as they don't slow up when they are tired in the Army.

His address is Private Donald Dufrain, Battery D, 485th Coast Artillery Sep. Battalion, Anti-Aircraft, Camp Hulen, Texas.

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Captain Herman E. Gardner writes from Fort Sill, Oklahoma: "I am still teaching communications at the Field Artillery school at Fort Sill. At the present time I am in the Officer Candidate section, or in short, I am helping make new second lieutenants, commonly known as "ninety day wonders." I have recently been promoted to captain."

Captain Gardner is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Gardner of near Newton and is a graduate of the Newton Community high school and University of Illinois.

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Sergeant and Mrs. Dale C. Snearly spent a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Snearly and other relatives and friends of Yale. They returned to Chicago on Sunday to visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McCarty and sons until Thursday, when he returned to camp.

Sergeant Snearly is stationed in California on desert maneuvers. Mrs. Snearly is working in Chicago and making her home with her parents while her husband is in the service.

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Sergeant Ralph A. Dhom, Third Armored division, is spending a few days furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dhom of near Newton. The division has just been moved from Camp Pickett, Virginia, to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. He says that all the boys he knows from Jasper county in the division are well.

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Private Coy Kirts Ellison spent a few days furlough with his mother, Mrs. Ina Ellison of Olney and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kirts of Sainte Marie, his grand-parents, and friends of Newton. He is stationed in North Carolina.

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Circuit Clerk Cloyde L. Hunt left Monday to report for duty in the United States Army at Fort Sheridan near Chicago. He has been succeeded by Ted McCullough as acting clerk, and Miss Ruth Clark as acting deputy clerk.

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V. Floyd Jones of Newton writes that he is studying radio at Yale university, New Haven, Connecticut, at the Army Air Force Technical school. His address is C. A. T. C. No. 1, AAFTTC., Room 205, Farnam hall, New Haven, Connecticut

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Private Stanley Hynes is spending a few days at Newton and Sainte Marie, convalescing from five weeks in the hospital with pneumonia. He is in the Twenty-fourth Evacuation hospital unit at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky.

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Private Avery McKinney, 119th Armored battalion, Camp Campbell, Kentucky, is spending a few days furlough at Bogota. Camp Campbell is in Eastern Kentucky.

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Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan Beverlin of Newton are in receipt of a letter from their son, Samuel Beverlin, from the Southwest Pacific area. He is believed to be in the Solomon Islands.

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Lieutenant John S. Wright, who was recently commissioned at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, is now at Warrenton, Virginia, where he is in school for further training.

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Private Duane Wilson is here on a furlough from Dow field, Bangor, Maine. He is in the Army Air Force.