

# I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By  
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz

Special to the Highland Park Press  
**One Year in the Army!**

Special to the Highland Park Press Headquarters, Chanute Field: Ten days ago I had been in the army a year. I celebrated that day crawling in and out of the field—that training. But this column does not concern that. Rather, it has to do with some of the quaint stories and persons I've bumped into during my tour of duty.

**Soldier Stories . . .**

There's that fellow I met the other day. He's a soldier. A fighter, too. He's a bantam-weight champion. He looks about as much like a fighter as World War I "Jenny" looks like a World War II P-38 "Lightning." Anyway, fellows call him "Rigorous." And then there was that private at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago who would NOT take one of the many towels to his quarters on the twelfth floor. He insisted on using the stairs. And he ran up 'em at that!

**Reads Upside Down . . .**

He always read a newspaper upside down and he slept on a board. And periodically he'd go on a hunger strike, just drinking water. Yet, in spite of his peculiarities, he had a powerful physique. I'll wager fellow army writer Ernie Pyle never met such a soldier!

And then there was that soldier who never went to movies. He claimed they were sinful. Yet his hobby was home movies!

**Refused His Pay . . .**

Not too long ago I heard of the private who refused to accept his pay every month. He said he didn't drink or smoke or date—so why did he need any money?

Later it was discovered he had requested his Army pay be used for War Bonds.

There's that private who, every night after supper, takes down his guitar and sits tuning it for three hours. I've lived in the same barracks with him for three months and he hasn't played a tune yet!

**Goes Barefooted . . .**

Somehow Selective Service found this character way up in the Tennessee hills.

Yep, he's a hillbilly. And hillbillies don't wear shoes, I'm told.

Well, it was a real task to convince him that shoes must be worn in the Army. He was convinced though. But now, as soon as he enters the barracks, he kicks off his shoes and walks around happily barefoot.

There was that sergeant I heard about in Chicago who periodically became gloomy.

When gloom would hover over him, he would lock himself in a bathroom, climb into the bathtub, set off a firecracker (he always carried some with him), then come out of the bathroom with a big smile on his face and say: "Now I feel much better!"

### Taught how . . .

Last week I was told that some World War II veterans were flown from Salerno back to the States. They had been overseas, and in combat, for eighteen months.

They were heroes, by the way. As soon as they arrived they were ordered to the rifle range to learn how to shoot.

### THIS IS THE ARMY!

He was a farmer in civilian life. Late at night I've been awake, thinking of Highland Park, and all the wonderful times I've had there. Well, when I'm doing this thinking I hear this farmer-soldier talking, shouting in his sleep, driving his team of mules over a 1,000 acre farm—or one just about that big!

Efficiency of Army Medics can be illustrated best by this story.

After a poor private had been put into bed, had his temperature taken, and his head bandaged, he finally had an opportunity to tell those who thought he was ill why he had come to the hospital in the first place.

"I just came here to have my dog-tags checked. I feel fine," said he.

There are words peculiar to each branch of the Army. The Army Air Forces is no exception.

In the Air Forces you're always "sweating out" a line, a formation, a promotion. And everything is "rugged" in the Air Forces—a "rugged" flight, a "rugged" day, a "rugged" commanding officer.

I don't know where all these "pin-up" pictures go. Don't believe I've seen more than two pinned up since I've been in the Army.

One of the soldier's favorite entertainers is Joe E. Brown.

Reason? His show is CLEAN, as well as humorous.

**Tip to Hollywood:** Keep your shows clean and funny and we'll laugh and our morale will skyrocket! It's right high now, by the way.

This corporal was told his beliefs on life would change after he had been in the Army for awhile. To those who said that, let me say, "You're wrong!" Beliefs are the same. Philosophy is still idealistic, optimistic. Faith is still deep. Tip-toe living is still a goal. Yes to Life still a way of living!

And a word of thanks to all my friends who have been kind in their praise of this column.

## American Legion Intensifies Efforts To Aid War Veterans

The expense of services to discharged World War II veterans and their families has forced the American Legion to adopt its largest national operation budget in its history, \$645,151.21 states Leonard W. Esper, of Springfield, commander of the veteran's organization in Illinois.

A typical service of the American Legion is the child welfare division. More than 6,000,000 have been helped by the Legion and its affiliated organizations from their own financial resources. Casualty lists are now being used to ascertain the orphans or children of World War II veterans who require emergency assistance.

The Legion's major legislative program for 1944 will include efforts to insure laws covering postwar planning, universal service, universal military training and adequate protection for disabled veterans of World Wars I and II and their families, Commander Esper reports.

The American Legion has also increased the number of its annual National Commander college scholarships from five to ten, in order that orphans of veterans of World War II may have the same opportunities as those of World War I.

The Legion's national employment committee, headed by Lawrence J. Fenlon, of Chicago, urges that in order to expedite the transition of members of the military services to civilian jobs, a suitable furlough, of from 30 to 90 days be given, with pay and allowances, plus travelling expenses to their homes. A 52-week special government compensation is advocated after their discharge to veterans desiring to complete their education. All veterans would be required to register with their home town government officials upon reaching there.

Senator Ralph Brewster, of Maine, states that had the government put into effect, immediately after Pearl Harbor, the American Legion's principle of universal service, it would not be so far behind in its war effort today. Sen. Brewster, a member of the Truman committee, is one of the five senators who recently toured world battlefronts. He adds that utilization of the Legion's plan would have eliminated the confusion of 90 alphabetical agencies, differences among which are jeopardizing the nation's chance for a just peace.

## Brief Illness Fatal To One of Town's Oldest Citizens

A familiar figure is missed from the streets of Highland Park, with the passing of Mr. John Dunford, who for 5 years made his home at the Highland Apartments.

Although 90 years of age, Mr. Dunford, active and cheerful, had the appearance of a much younger man. He was born in England, but came to this country 62 years ago, when he entered the employ of the late Marshall Field as coachman. He remained there for 20 years and was then employed by the McCormick-Rockefeller family at Lake Forest for 27 years.

His illness was brief, and after a few days at the Highland Park hospital, he passed away Saturday, Dec. 11.

Two daughters and a son survive. They are Mrs. John Zangler of Highland Park, Mrs. E. F. Piper, Oconomowoc, Wis., and John Jr., of Lake Forest.

## John Otrowsky Landscape Gardener Succumbs to Illness

After an illness of more than a year, John Otrowsky, 2616 W. Park Ave., passed away last Saturday, Dec. 11.

Landscape gardener and nurseryman, he came to this country from Czechoslovakia in 1907, and has lived in Highland Park for about 17 years. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, and three daughters, Mrs. Emilie Hollis of Wood River, Ill., Mrs. Ann Meston of Chicago, and Elizabeth, who lives at home.

## H. P. Public Library

### Children's Department

"His eyes—how they twinkled!  
His dimples, how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses,  
His nose like a cherry."  
('Twas the night before Christmas)  
Soon he will be here again, our jolly St. Nick of reindeer and sleigh, with a pack full of toys and all kinds of books. What are the ones he shall bring you this year:

For the small ones:  
**Don't count your chicks—Anaire.** An old humorous Norse tale, gayly illustrated.

**Mighty hunter—Hader.** Little Brave Heart, the Indian boy, and his arrows.

**Small rain—Jones.** Bible verses, rightly chosen, with illustrations near to the heart of a little child.

**Puppies for keeps—Lathrop.** Peki-nese puppies.

**Many moons—Thurber.** Lovely, philosophical story of a little princess who wishes for the moon.

**The white goose—Tudor.** "The little white goose flew away on a moonlight night," and then . . .

For the in-be-tweens:  
**Little Navajo Bluebird—Clark.** Tenderly written story of a modern Navajo girl.

**Sensible Kate—Gates.** A moving story of a little girl.

**Twig—Jones.** A child in her own world of beauty and imagination.

**Homer Price—McCloskey.** Hilarious incidents and rollicking fun.

**Gift of the forest—Singh.** Hindu philosophy and thoughts in this beautiful book about a boy and his tiger pet.

**Sing for Christmas—Wheeler.** Christmas carols, words, music and history.

For the older ones:

**Barrie and daughter—Caudill.** For older girls—a fine story from Kentucky, about a generation ago.

**Tall hunter—Fast.** Life in the wilderness, told in beautiful prose.

**Submarine sailor—Felsen.** Raiding in Japanese waters by an American submarine.

**Monkey ahoy!—Lathrop.** A little lame boy, a man from the sea and his monkey.

**Keystone kids—Tunis.** Sport and life of today.

**They loved to laugh—Worth.** Olden times and a girl who suddenly finds herself as part of a family with seven laughing, mischievous boys.

## Food Waste in Lake County Could Supply Many Soldiers

Lake County's 33,637 households could feed 8,338 soldiers annually, is the amazing statement of an official of food distribution.

He reminds us that food is a munition of war and waste of it must be fought now. Kitchen efficiency should include three points: 1) Buy as nearly as possible the exact required amount; 2) serve moderate helpings; and 3) use all left-overs.

Although much waste of food has still over 8 per cent of the food bought been eliminated since Pearl Harbor, for home consumption is lost. Waste cannot be entirely prevented, but carefully planned conservation should cut it in half, thus saving in Lake County alone, enough to supply 4,169 soldiers.

## Two Small Fires Reported This Week

Burning shingles caused by sparks on a roof at Prospect and Dale, the property of W. L. McDaniels, called out the fire department Wednesday morning at 7:30. Damage to the extent of \$25 resulted.

A chimney fire on Wade St., earlier in the week was extinguished with little or no damage.

## FORMER RESIDENT MEMBER OF SPARS

Mrs. G. S. Welborn, the former Suzanne Coale of Highland Park, has recently been accepted by the SPARS and leaves Saturday, Dec. 18, for New London, Conn., where she will begin her ensign training at the U. S. Coast Guard academy.

## Poor Health Results In Death of Mrs. Mann

The body of Mrs. Isabel Browning Mann, 218 No. Sheridan Rd., for years prominent in local social circles, was found, last week, in her home. For several years under doctor's care, she had become despondent because of poor health.

She is survived by her husband, Wm. D. Mann, Highland Park architect, two sons, Thomas, who is president of the Great Lakes Transportation Co., Sgt. David, of the U.S. air force, and four daughters, Mrs. Donald Cameron of New York, Mrs. Myron Graham of Decatur, Mrs. Lee

## Cootie Chemical Spells Defeat Of World War I Pest

A cootie chemical, which spells defeat for the pest of World War I soldiers, has been accidentally but joyfully discovered by workers in chemical research.

Jackson of Colesburg and Miss Isabel, a Spar, now stationed at Norfolk, Va. A brother, McPherson Browning, is chairman of the board of the Detroit Trust Co. After private funeral services, burial was made at Howell, Mich.



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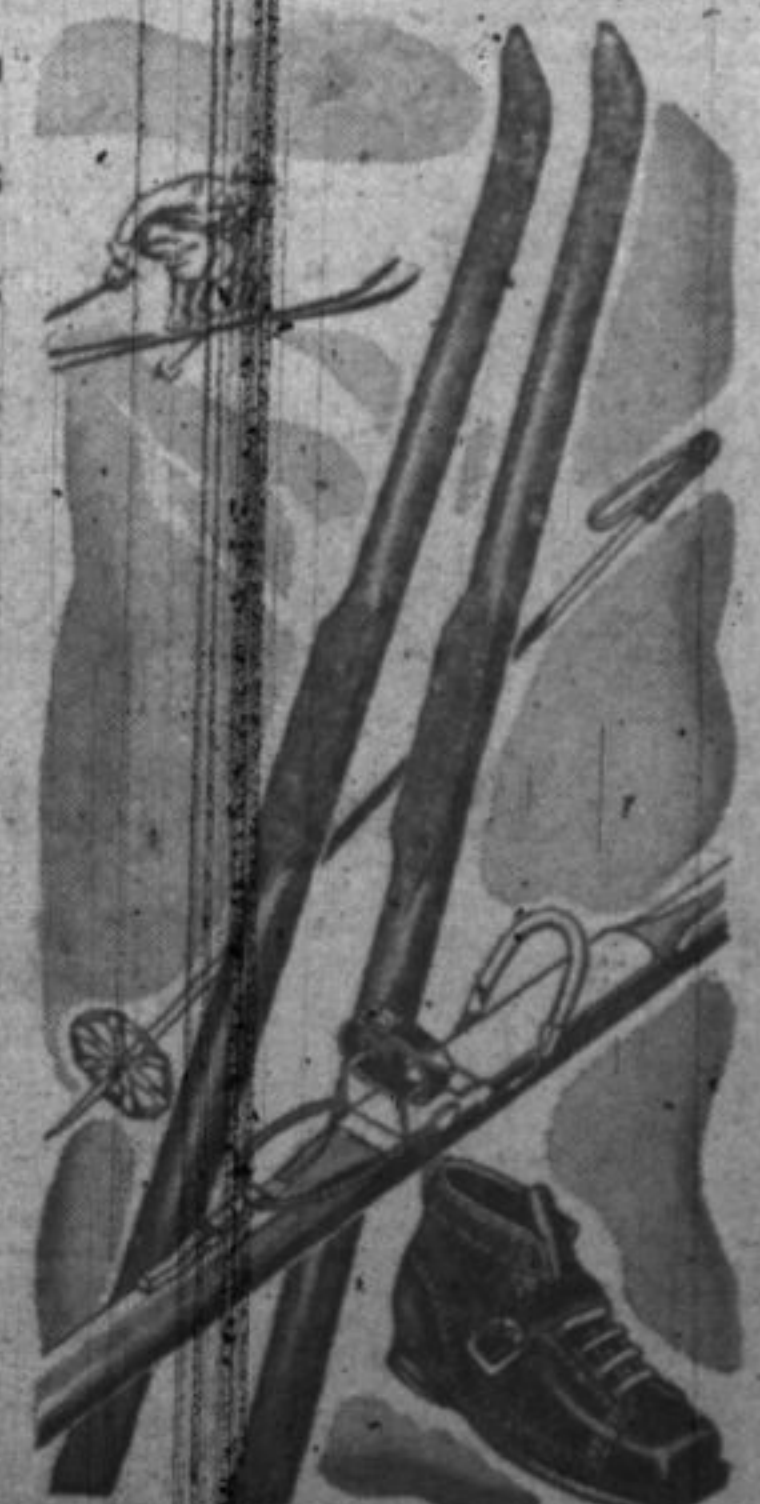
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- RIDGE TOP HICKORY SKIS \$10.25
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- Metal Edged Ridge Top HICKORY SKIS \$13.95
- Kandabar Binding Racing or Touring \$5.75
- Ski-Meister Touring Binding \$1.98
- Men's and Ladies' SKI BOOTS \$7.95
- Boys' and Girls' HOCKEY SKATES \$4.98
- FIGURE SKATES pair \$7.45
- STEEL SKI POLES \$5.95
- TONKIN SKI POLES each \$3.19
- SKATING SOCKS pair \$1.89
- Men's Hard-Toed HOCKEY SHOES \$8.75



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## WHAT'S GOING ON?

A newspaper friend contributes the following:  
I had twelve holiday bottles in my cellar and my wife told me to empty the contents of every bottle down the sink or else, so I proceeded with the unpleasant task.  
I drew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink with the exception of one glass which I drank.  
I extracted the cork from the second bottle and did likewise with the exception of one glass which I drank. I then withdrew the cork from the third bottle and poured the contents down the sink with the exception of one glass which I drank.  
I pulled the cork from the fourth sink and poured the contents down the glass, which I drank. I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank one sink out of it and threw the rest down the glass. I pulled the cork out of the next glass and poured the cork from the bottle. Then I corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink and drank the pour.  
When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with my hand and counted the bottles, corks, glasses and sink with other; which was twenty, as the house went by. I ed them again and finally all houses and bottles and glasses and sinks stood except one house which rank.

Almost as confusing as business, today—Help shortages, scarcity of goods, price ceilings, taxes, government regulations which change so fast even the lawyer has to look to the newspaper to know the law, and uncertainty of the future, provide some real problems to business men today. Naturally, some businesses are hit harder than others. In our own case, increased sales are prohibited, rates can not be increased, yet coal is up thousands of dollars, oil is up, wages are up, etc.  
We have had to meet the situation by strict economy of manpower and exacting management. You have helped tough your patience when the letters were read bi-monthly, or when the service man was late—and we do appreciate it.

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