

I'M STILL IN THE ARMY!

By
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz
(Official U. S. Army Correspondent)



(Special to The Highland Park Press)

The Stars and Stripes

HONOLULU, T. H.—

Don Whitehead — ace Associated Press correspondent, close friend of the late Ernie Pyle and director of Honolulu's alert AP bureau — recently described The Stars and Stripes as "The soldier newspaper that raps brass hats, rebukes Congress, and speaks its mind about official double talk on demobilization. (It has become," he continued, "the bible of free expression for Pacific GIs and sailors."

Now Don's story, you can be sure, made us Stars and Stripes staff members happy.

At a newspaper party the other evening I talked with Don about my small part in the powerful Stars and Stripes organization and he seemed to think my duties would make a story.

TELLS HIGHLAND PARKERS . . .

Perhaps Don will get around to writing about editing The Stars and Stripes' "Dear Editor!" column soon; but while he's sharpening his pencils and putting a new ribbon into his typewriter, I thought I would let you Highland Parkers in on some behind-the-scenes-action in the editorial rooms of this great GI journal.

M. Sgt. Charles Avedon, managing editor, has appointed me his assistant in preparing the daily "Dear Editor!" columns, presumably the most popular feature in the Honolulu edition of The Stars and Stripes. This I do in addition to staff writing.

HELP THE ENLISTED MEN . . .

"Chick," as we fondly call Sgt. Avedon, is a right guy. A successful Hollywood script writer in civilian days, he's 33 years old and a Yale graduate.

He's a tolerant fellow, 100 per cent for the underdog who, since the U. S. started arming for World War II, has been — and still is! — an enlisted man.

Deeply imbued with the spirit to right the wrongs occurring so frequently in the Army, "Chick" and fellow workers never hesitate to uncover any irregularities we find or to speak our minds on issues affecting service personnel.

Although the war is over and thousands of GIs are now out of uniform, there continue to be many more thousands still in uniform.

Our life is not always easy and now and then some officer — or some enlisted man acting as a non-com-in-charge — gets out of line and makes life unbearable.

When this happens, The Stars and Stripes hears about it — but fast!

SOME LETTERS TRAGIC . . .

Daily from 50 to 100 letters from all over the Pacific reach "Chick's" desk . . . and hours later my desk.

Some of these letters are humorous. Many are thought provoking. A few rap the State Department for its failure to announce clear cut policies. Many complain about GI chow, first sergeants, COs, and racial discrimination in the services. Some discuss soldier bonuses. Some request specific information on furloughs, dependency allotments, senators' names and backgrounds. Other letters are downright tragic.

All these missives are read carefully by "Chick," myself, and the men who work with us.

TYPICAL LETTERS . . .

Let's look at some of these published letters . . .

One hundred and twenty-four soldiers signed this one advocating a new discharge plan. Because of the recent stories reporting that a general's son was discharged with 18 points and a senator's son was transferred back to the States, these bitter letter-writers sarcastically suggest that from now on if a man is the son of a senator, he should automatically be given 100 points; if his dad is a general, 90 points; if he's an AAF football player, 200 points.

Requirement for discharge under their plan is 90 points, "air transportation home recommended."

They add, caustically, "Soldier, combat, over three years service, 1 point," subtly indicating that they believe (as most of us do) that current discharge policies are muddled.

NO SWABBIES ALLOWED!

Or, here's a letter signed by 5 sailors complaining that they are barred from Saipan's Red Cross club and they want to know why:

Here's another: "For heaven's sake," the harried private writes, "keep the military out of all government positions in the peacetime world. No more caste system for me; I'm sick of the fouled up Army way . . ."

A sailor writes in that he has to do KP on liberty day.

Five sailors gripe that they have nothing to do so their CO has made "garbage men" out of them "and put us to work picking up beer and whiskey bottles tossed aside by carefree government employees here on Oahu."

ON EMERGENCY FURLOUGHS . . .

Here are six different letters from officers and men whose emergency furlough requests were either turned down or delayed so long by red tape that by the time they arrived home — if they did! — they were too late to attend the funeral of their loved ones . . .

All day long letters like these come into the editorial offices of The Stars and Stripes. It's our job to read them, select those which we feel are most representative, and worthy of attention, edit them (we never change the writer's phraseology), add headlines, and answer them if they need a reply. And many do.

DONE SOME GOOD . . .

Through the "Dear Editor!" column much good has been done for the lowly GI, we are happy to report.

We've gotten men their back pay; emergency furloughs and air transportation without red tape; more points; dependency allotments; equipment; and several other just benefits.

Many irregularities might be overlooked if they had not been spotlighted in the letters' column which, we're led to believe, is closely read each day by the No. 1 officers hereabouts and by official Washington.

When legitimate complaints get to them suitable action is often taken and the undesirable situation rectified, thank the Lord!

HAPPY SPIRIT . . .

It's a pleasant feeling knowing that you're trying to help someone. Perhaps that's why there's such a good, happy spirit around the men working in the bustling offices of the Honolulu edition of The Stars and Stripes.

Lt. Edward W. Hartly Released from Duty

San Antonio, Tex. — 1st Lieut. Edward W. Hartly Jr., 22, husband of Mrs. Gerda Ann Hartly, 126 Highwood Ave., Highwood, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wellington Hartly, 965 N. St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, has been separated from the army air forces at the San Antonio district personnel distribution command.

He served overseas 12½ months as a pilot in the air transport command in the European theater of operations. He wears the EAME ribbon with 1 battle star. Before entering the army he worked at Turgeon flying school at Northbrook, Ill. He attended Highland Park high, 1938-42.

Air crewmen and ground crewmen returning from combat areas and army personnel from continental installations are received by the San Antonio PDC installation and in three days of processing their records are straightened out, their army pay matters arranged and their physical condition checked thoroughly in a medical examination. Only then are they returned to civilian life, adjusted completely for the change from combat soldier to civilian.

Three of the Five Cantagallo Brothers Released From Service

Former T/Sgt. Louis P. Cantagallo, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Cantagallo, 237 High St., Highwood, was released from service last week at Fort Sheridan after serving 2 years in the Pacific. He possesses the Asiatic Pacific ribbon with 2 battle stars, the Victory medal, the Bronze Arrowhead and the Purple Heart. He served in Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines and Tokyo.

His brother, Ambrose, electrician's mate 1/c, has been released from the navy and is living with his wife and mother at the above address.

Francis, who served in the Aleutians, taking part in the Battle of Attu, was discharged about a month ago.

Joseph GM 2/c, recently returned from the Aleutians, and Sgt. Dominic, in Europe for the past 17 months, are still in service.

Pvt. David Dean Home for 7-Day Holiday Furlough

Pvt. David Dean is home from Camp McCoy, Sparta, Wis., to spend a 7-day furlough with his parents, the M. C. Deans, 458 Lincoln. A 1945 graduate of Highland Park high, and now a dental technician, David does full justice to Uncle Sam's natty uniform.

The former Capt. Warren Dean, of the AAF, who served in the Pacific area, received his release from service on Dec. 29.

Ted Loesch, SP (S) 2-c, Released from Service; Rejoins Police Force

Among those back from the wars, dropping back in civilian rags which they left to serve their country, is Ted Loesch, 589 Elm Place.

In service 32 months, and last stationed at Camp Elliot, Calif., where he held the rating of SP (S) 2/c; he was released at Great Lakes on January 1, and will soon rejoin the local police force.

Cpl. Coit Spalding Of Marine Band Stationed in China

Cpl. Coit Spalding, of the first division marine headquarters band,

is now stationed in Tientsin, China.

Eighteen months overseas, he participated in action at Okinawa. He is the son of the Fenner Spaldings, 29 N. Sheridan.

James Hickey, One-Man Blitz in Germany, Released from Service

James Hickey, 337 Ashland, Highwood, has been released from service and will return to his pre-war position with the Bowman Dairy Co., on the 15th. Twenty months in service, and overseas since Nov. 1944, Pft. Hickey took part in campaigns in France, the Rhineland and Germany, and was last stationed in Austria.

At one time captured by the Nazis, during the German campaign, Hickey ended by appearing in his own lines with 50 German prisoners in tow. What happened and how he took the enemy single-handed has undoubtedly been fully recounted to his wife, Nadine, and his three children, Mary Jo, James Jr., and Danny.

Frank C. Becker Honorably Discharged From Coast Guard

Frank C. Becker, 29, just received his honorable discharge from the U. S. coast guard in time to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Becker, 388 Briarwood Pl., Highland Park. Becker served for 50 months as a seaman 1/c, and saw action in the American, European, and Asiatic-Pacific theaters.

Pfc. Harold Moran Spends Furlough With Parents

Pfc. Harold Moran, who suffered spinal injuries while fighting

in Germany, a year ago, and who has been in Wakeman general hospital, Ind., since returning to the States, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Peterson, and the Joseph Morans, at 319 N. Green Bay.

Home from the Wars

Recently released from service at Ft. Sheridan were S/Sgt. Noble J. Tison, 1211 Livingston, Cpl. Alvin W. Knaak Jr., 538 Central, and T/4 Jacob S. Miller, 1523 Westview, Highland Park. M/Sgt. Elmer Blank, 215 High St. Pfc. Renato Grotti, 314 Palmer and Pfc. Henry Pasquesi, 216 Railway, of Highwood, were discharged at Camp Grant.

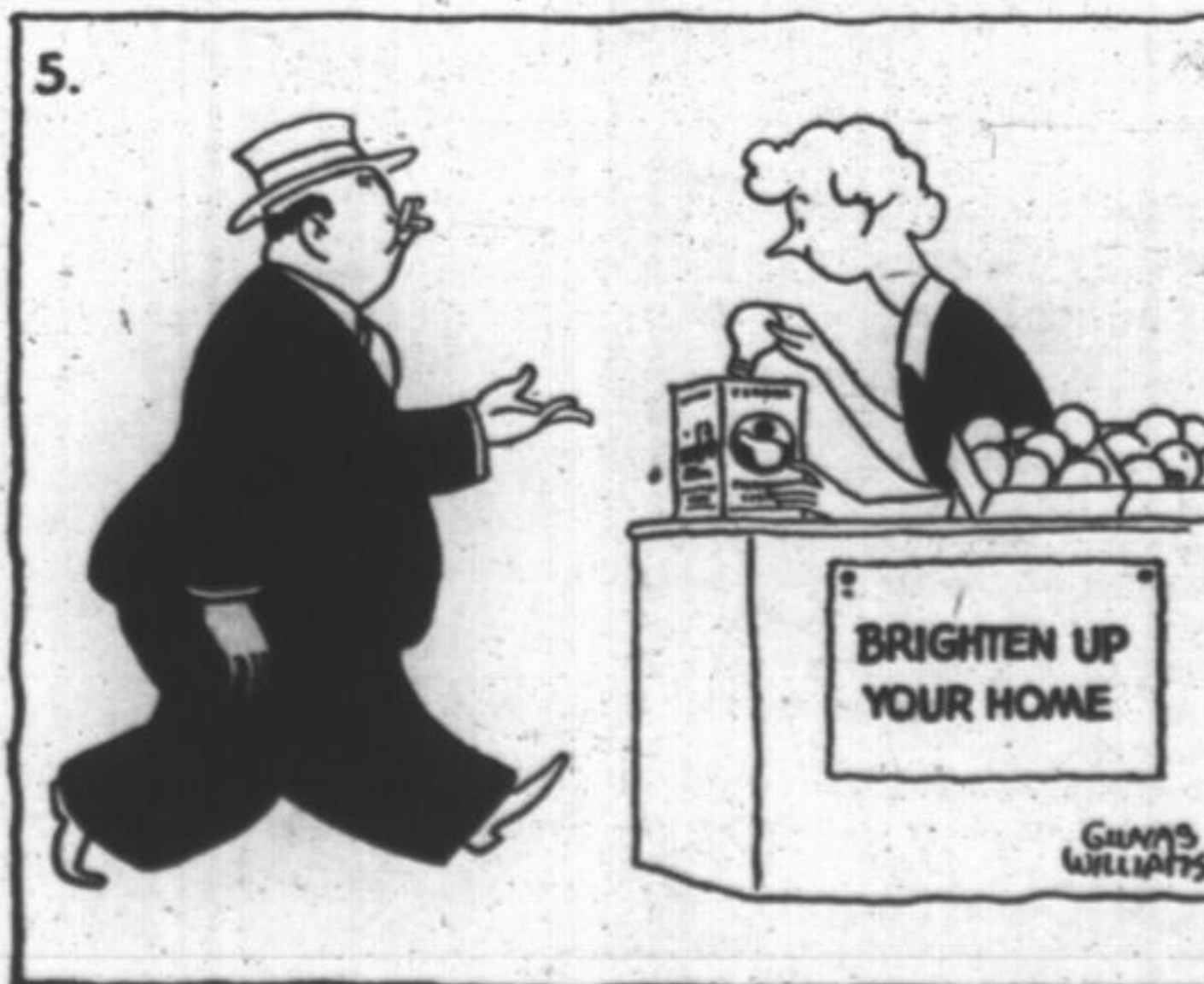
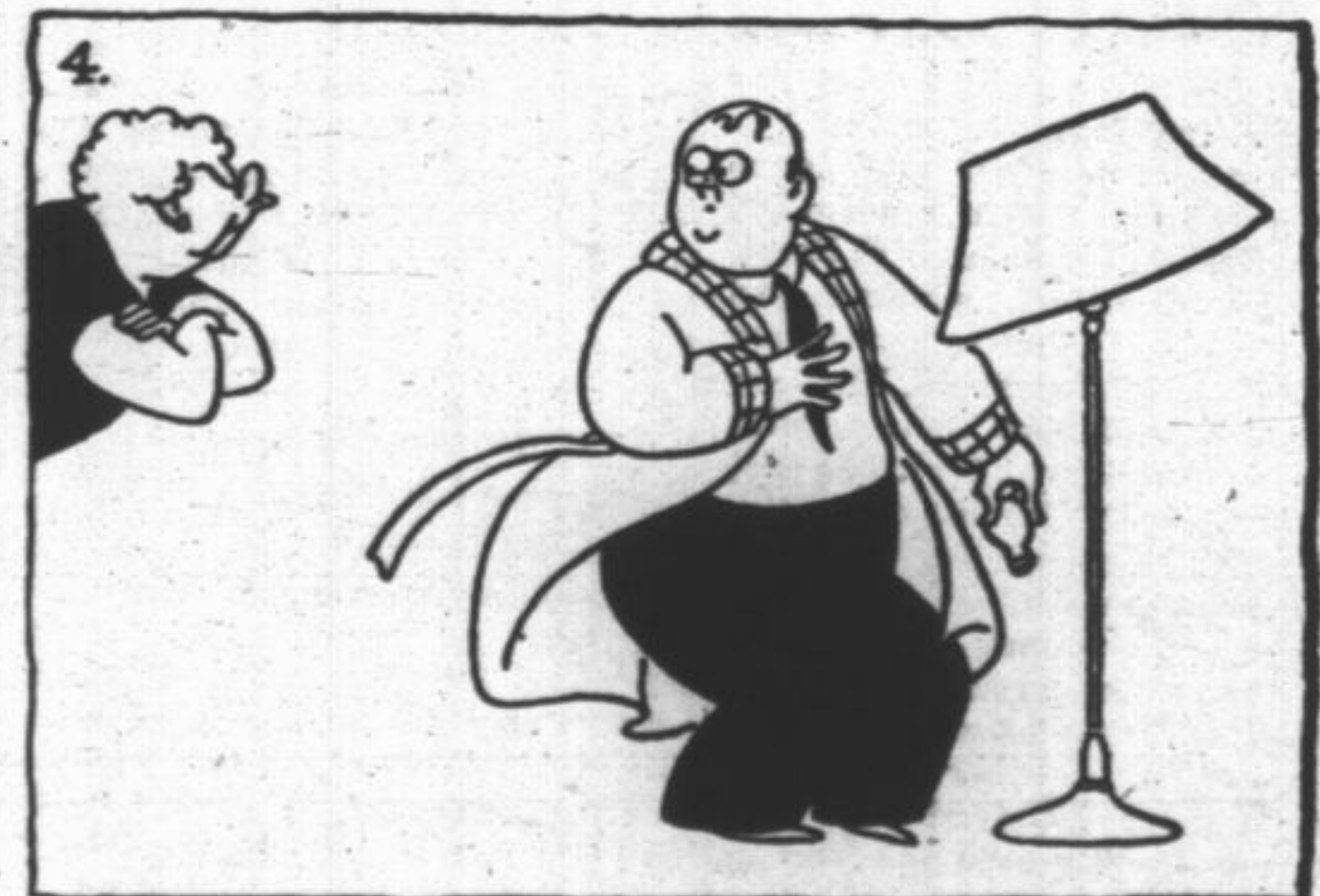
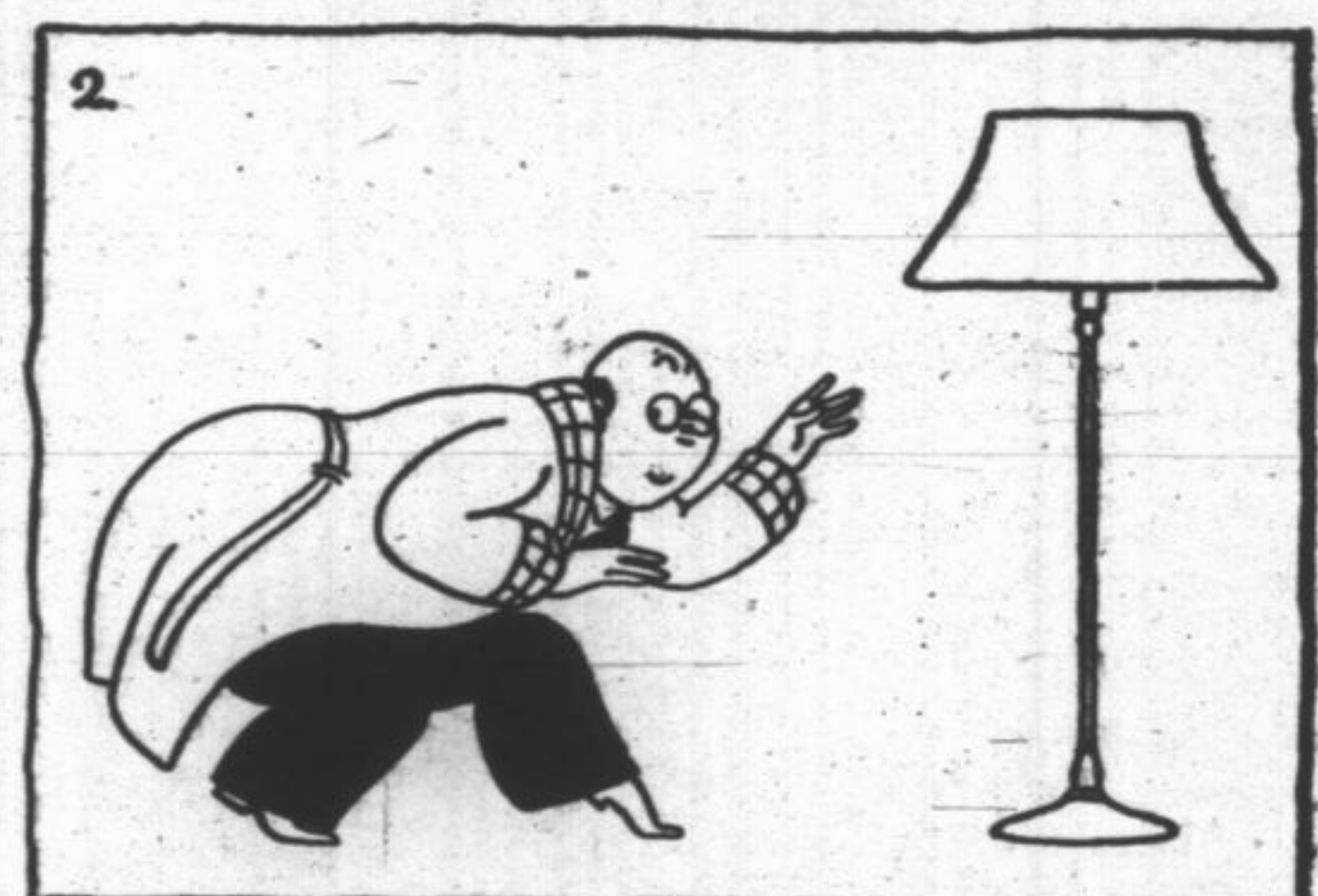
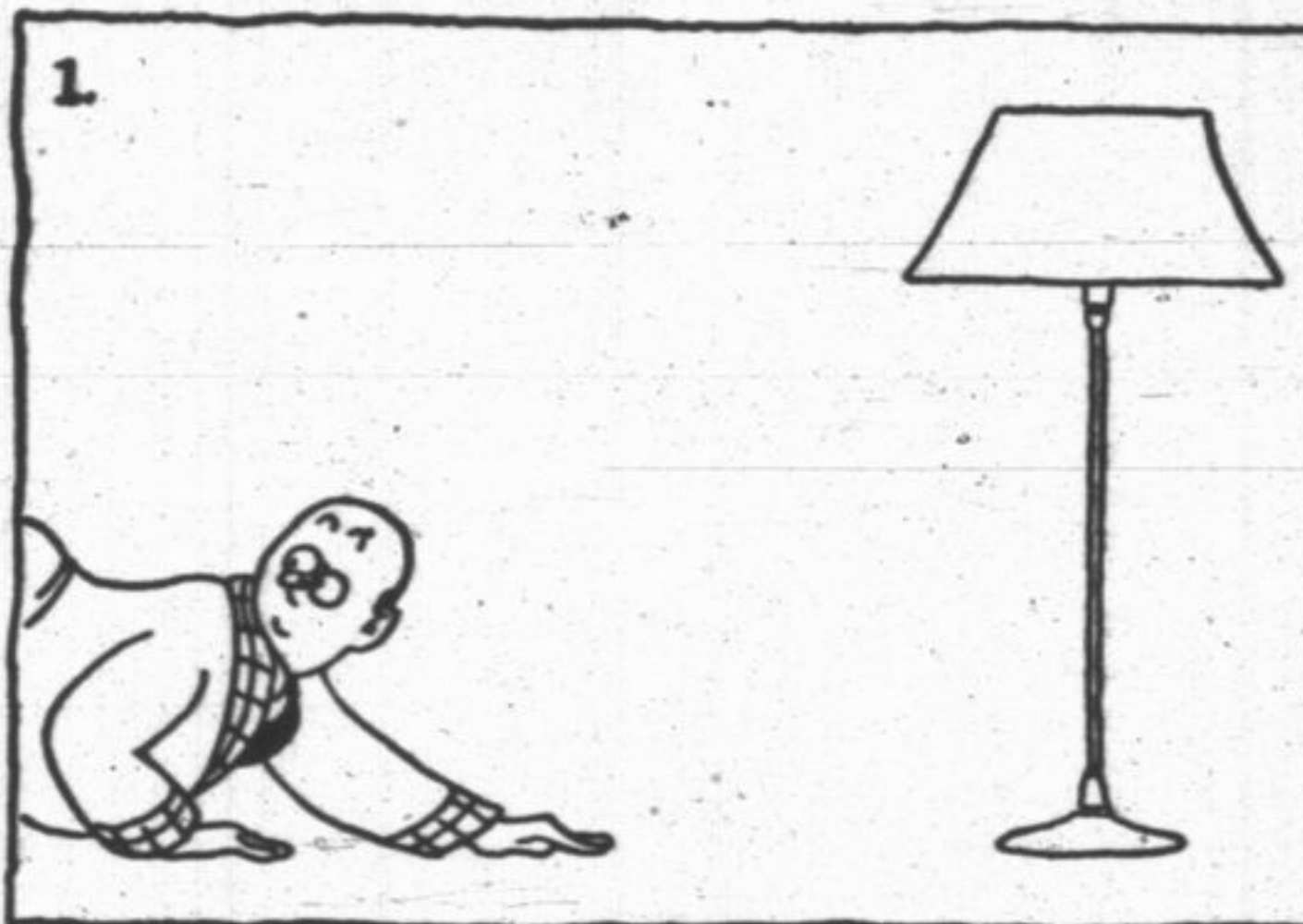
Sgt. Lyle C. Mason, 188 N. Second St., arrived on the west coast last week aboard the General Brewster.

Released from the Navy at Gt. Lakes last Thursday were: Nelson Moore, CK 3/c (T), First National bank, Robert S. Earhart, SP (A) 3/c (T), 1547 St. Johns, R. L. Baranzelli, Cox. (T), 1336 Marion, Harry Schweitzer, Ens. 543 Central, Alfred W. Okey, Ens., 1021 St. Johns, Roger J. Peddle, BGMSRT 3/c, 619 Homewood, Leslie G. Brand, Jr., Ens., 1236 Pleasant, and Henry S. Vail, Ch. Bost, 190 Lakewood.

Also recently released from service were Walter J. Bargetzi, AMM 3/c; RFD, Arthur C. Humpfer, RDM 3/c (T), 1700 Cypress, Ottilio L. Siensa, AMM 2/c (T), 911 County Line, Dante Casolari, FC 1/c (T), 184 Prairie, Louis N. Ori, S1/c, 141 Prairie and Colorado Piazzi, McMM 3/c, 343 Ashland.

Full publication of the names of members of the Nazi party in the United States, as disclosed by records seized in Germany, is demanded by the American Legion.

Bulbsnatcher Story without Words . . .



MORAL: Don't be a bulbsnatcher. Brighten up your home, make it more pleasant. Have plenty of good light. Avoid eyestrain risks. It's easy! Just fill empty light sockets, and replace burned-out light bulbs with adequate, bright, new bulbs. Keep "spares" on hand.

IN THE NATION'S SERVICE

One Tenny Son Is Released From Service

After 4½ years in the navy, Lt. Cmdr. Wm. R. Tenny, Jr., 26, son of the W. R. Tennys, 785 Oak Dr., has been released from service.

Serving on the naval staff at Pearl Harbor, he later served aboard the Honolulu, the first ship to shell Kiska. Later he spent 3 years aboard an LST in the Pacific.

A graduate of Northwestern, Tenny also attended Annapolis Naval academy, studying communications, prior to active duty.

His brother, 2nd Lt. Robert H. Tenny, 24, formerly instructor in a POW school at Camp Polk, La., has been transferred to Hagers-

town, Md. Prior to this he was with the intelligence corps at Camp Richie, and in Paris, Texas.

Alex N. Pirie to Resume Studies After

Alex N. Pirie, son of Mrs. Harry Rogan, 1737 Pleasant, was recently discharged from the army at Camp Grant, after serving for over three years. He is 22 years of age.

With an amphibian tractor battalion, he participated in landings on New Guinea, Leyte, Luzon and Borneo, and possesses six battle stars besides the Bronze Arrowhead for landings.

He expects to resume his interrupted studies at Lake Forest college.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Remember Our Liberal Renewal Policy

Standard burned-out light bulbs (marked "P. S. of N. I." or "Renewal Service") in 25 to 200 watt sizes, may be exchanged for new bulbs without charge; others at a slight renewal charge. Bring your burned-out bulbs to your Public Service store for exchange.

Practically all sizes of new light bulbs are now available at your Public Service store or light bulb agency.