

Let's Take a Look

By

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A Pleasant Place To Buy

I so enjoyed my 89 minute visit at Mr. J. B. Garnett's store this week that I almost forgot I had parked my car in a 90 minute zone. Highland Park's vigilant police were nearing my vehicle as I hastily left Garnett's men's store after a pleasant chat with Messrs. Garnett, J. L. Wehrheim, Harold H. Swinea, and Miss Sadie Wessling. I visited Garnett's because I wanted to know what made Highland Park's merchants more pleasing to deal with when compared to most merchants I've met in other towns during my GI tours. I think I've found the answers.

KNOW CUSTOMERS WELL . . .

Perhaps one of the reasons Garnett's 40 employees (I wish I could have met them all) treat their customers courteously is because the willing sales personnel know their shop-visitors well.

You see, Mr. Garnett started his store back in 1919 — and many of his original employees are still with him. And I'll wager since 1919 nearly every Highland Park — including many more from other suburban towns — has shopped at least once in this attractive dry goods store.

And, according to Mr. Wehrheim, merchandise manager for 21 years, 20,000 sales books are used yearly and each book contains 50 order blanks — a nice business which improves every year. You can see that Garnett's employees know how to handle their customers.

HIGHLAND PARKER FOR 30 YEARS . . .

Take Miss Sadie Wessling for example. She has been with the store since it opened. Indeed, she has lived in Highland Park over 30 years — and when you live in this grand town you're certain to know the likes of the folks who live here.

Miss Wessling is in the Children's Wear department — one of the most popular departments in the store. During her years as a saleslady she has probably outfitted more Highland Park children between the "crawling age" and 12 years than any other woman in town.

ENJOYS HER WORK . . .

"I enjoy my work for it is pleasant and I get to know Highland Park youngsters," Miss Wessling said.

Miss Wessling says that young boy customers are the easiest to please.

"They'll usually accept anything their mothers buy for them in the way of clothes. They seem to prefer overalls more than any other garment."

GIRLS MORE PARTICULAR

Highland Park girls, on the other hand, are more particular about their sweaters and skirts. "But, after all," Miss Wessling says, "that's quite natural."

Other Garnett long timers are Ella Hansen, Teissie McClory, Mrs. Betty Axline, Mrs. Elizabeth Reed, Mrs. Irene Rose, and Miss Cecelia Sheff. And, by the way, the man responsible for those attractive displays which are changed every week is Mr. Stanley Hegberg.

CASUAL FRIENDLINESS . . .

I noticed during my Garnett visit — my first in many months — that there is an air of casual friendliness about this pastel-painted, brightly-lighted store.

Unobtrusively I observed the sales clerks in action. I saw many smiles — and the customers were smiling, too, despite the fact that they were not able to obtain nylon, white shirts, and the like.

STRESS FAIRNESS . . .

"We stress fairness here," Mr. Garnett told me. "We try to be fair to our customers and to our employees alike. By doing this we have built our business together."

Mr. Garnett and Mr. Wehrheim believe that a home is one of man's most precious possessions.

"There are hundreds of beautiful homes in Highland Park and these home owners want the best equipment in their homes," Mr. Garnett told me. He added: "We try our best to have the finest merchandise. Highland Parkers know and want quality, and we aim to have it here for them to buy," Highland Park's popular mayor concluded.

Pfc. Roland Schlabowske Arrives in Europe With Army Corps Depot

Furstenfeldbruck, Germany. — Pfc. Roland C. Schlabowske, son of Mrs. Lucille Schlabowske, 125 N. Green Bay, has arrived at the European Theater Army Air Forces Reinforcement depot, and will soon be assigned to a permanent station somewhere in Germany.

While he is at this post, situated near Munich on the picturesque wooded slope of a German Alpine range, Pfc. Schlabowske will have an opportunity to enjoy the scenic beauties of Southern Bavaria which made the region popular among pre-war tourists.

Formerly a prominent Luftwaffe training school, the army air forces reinforcement depot is one of the most attractive fields in Europe. At the present time several thousand soldiers each month are processed and given orientation in their occupational duties at this key station.

Before entering the service in December, '44, he attended Highland Park high school, and was later employed as a truck driver by the Ships Service department, Gt. Lakes.

Bruno Somenzi Resumes Former Position with Minor Baseball Team

Bruno Somenzi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Somenzi, 112 North, Highwood, who left the Portsmouth minor league baseball team to enter the navy 3 years ago, has now left for St. Augustine, Fla., to resume his work with the team.

The Bruno Somenzis with their son, Terry, live at 419 Waukegan, Highwood.

Bruno Amedei of Anti-Aircraft Receives Discharge

Former Sgt. Bruno Amedei, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Amedei, 317 Grove, Highwood, was released from service last week after 16 months overseas with an anti-aircraft unit, in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands. He entered the service 3 years ago next May.

Pfc. Hubert A., a brother, who has been stationed in the Philippines, is now stationed in Japan. Formerly with the infantry, he is now with an ordnance company.

Ex-Cpl. Scornavacco Recently Released At Camp Grant

Cpl. Armando Scornavacco, son of Mrs. Angelina Scornavacco, 550 Railway, Highwood, was recently discharged from service at Camp Grant, having served overseas for over two years with the army engineers. He returned to the States two weeks ago. His wife, Linda, has been living in Medford, Wis.

U. S. VICTORY BONDS BUY THEM . . . KEEP THEM!

Larry Abts Plan To Make Home in Highland Park

Larry Abt, former major in the army air force, and also a former resident of Highland Park, is, with his family, now living in Cary, Ill. Mr. Abt is vice-president of the Foreign Trades corporation, with offices in Chicago. It is understood that the family plans to build a home in Highland Park sometime soon.

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At Home and Abroad

Fred Musser Survives Hazardous Adventures; Released from Service

Former Lt. (jg) Fred Musser, son of the V. C. Mussers, 529 Oakwood, was released from the navy last week at Great Lakes, after about three years of as rugged service as often falls to the lot of a sailor.

Becomes Beach Jumper

Graduating from Iowa State university in August, 1942, he entered service immediately, training at Notre Dame, from which he was graduated an ensign the following January. He then received further training in the east, going into action in October, 1944, with a beach jumper unit of the navy.

It fell to young Musser's lot to land on Mindoro with a group of Filipino guerrillas preceding the American invasion, for the purpose of obtaining much-needed information. Later, in Manila, he took part in another perilous mission, that of spotting mines and pill-boxes prior to landing of our troops.

Wins Bronze Star

It was while on convoy duty that Lt. Musser rescued 5 wounded men from another ship that had been dive-bombed; and for this feat he was awarded the Bronze star.

Marries Classmate

Home on leave, in April, 1945, Musser married the former Anne Moore, of Mason City, Ia., a former classmate at Iowa, and a graduate dietician.

Encounters Typhoon

Reporting to the east coast at the end of his leave, he received further training, which included the study of the Chinese language. Later he was ordered to Japan to bring back an LCI. It was on his trip home that he ran into a typhoon, and was blown from his course, to the coast of Honshu, where he found a Jap fishing village. The natives, however, knew of the war's end, and took him to their head man, who had been born and bred in the States, re-

turning to Japan at the age of 20. Musser was guided to a sheltered spot where he kept his ship until the storm was over. Carefully nursing his battered LCI, he made Saipan, then Eniwetok, then Pearl Harbor, where the much damaged boat was finally decommissioned.

Frank, a brother, now stationed at Ault field, Whitley Field, Wash., as torpedoman 3/c, entered the navy in June, 1944. Capt. Ernest Hannah, husband of the former Marian Musser, with four years of army service in the medical corps behind him, 18 months of which was served in Germany, was released from service last week at Camp McCoy, Wis.

Former Lt. Harold Frost of Deerfield Given Navy Release

Former Lt. Harold Frost, Deerfield, who served on a destroyer escort for nearly 2 years in the Pacific, and has for the past year been stationed at Great Lakes, has been released from the navy.

With his wife, the former Betty Perrin, of Cleveland, he has been staying with his mother, Mrs. Geo. Beckman, 914 Woodward, of Deerfield.

His brother, Sgt. Russell Frost, bombardier in the AAF, has been reported missing in action over Germany since April, 1944.

John Baldi, 3 1/2 Years In Navy, Possesses 5 Campaign Ribbons

John Baldi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oresto Baldi, 1537 Main, Highwood, was released from the navy at Great Lakes on March 3 after serving 3 1/2 years.

During his 14 months in the Pacific, as chief commissary steward, he earned 5 campaign ribbons for his participation in the Philippine invasions: Good Conduct, Philippine liberation, Asiatic-Pacific, Victory and American theater ribbons. He is uncertain as to his future plans.



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