

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

Vol. XI STOW, OHIO, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1944

No. 13

TEACH US TO PRAY

Lord, teach us to pray, was the request of a disciple of our Lord. Luke 11-1. That prayer is a duty of all church members is an accepted fact. That only a comparative few are regular in their prayers is also true. That prayer is essential to religious growth is scarcely debatable, but that not too many seek such growth is quite evident. That a praying congregation will invariably generate a spiritual atmosphere in and about the church cannot be denied. That a praying congregation is not critical or fault finding but rather cooperative and sympathetic is also true. That the very thought of the prayer room, the prayer life and the beautiful sentiment that clusters and clings to prayers, and their memory is refreshing and uplifting, so Lord, teach us to pray.

In our church we give much thought to singing, to teaching, to organizing, to socials, to raising money, to revivals, to getting members and forty eleven other things, but what of prayer? Lord teach us to pray. How many of the best trained members of our church if called on publicly to pray are nonplussed, embarrassed and uncomfortable; and why? All because they give prayer little concern, and again because they are not prepared. The choir is prepared to sing, the teachers to go before their classes, the deacons to pass the bread and wine, the ushers to seat the people, but prayer is a contact with God, prayer is the blood stream of the church, prayer is the believer's

vital breath, so Lord teach us to pray.

How beautiful to read; By the river side, where prayer was wont to be made. Acts 16.13. Whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Matt. 21.22. In a mountain he continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6.12. As he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was changed. Luke 9.29. And Jesus called his disciples together and taught them, after this manner therefore pray ye; our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Matt. 6.9.

The underlying reason for prayer is the existence of God, and man's need to worship Him, this in fact is the reason for all parts of our devotion and church activities, prayer being one if not the most vital, and our failure is because it is not easy to pray, we are not trained to pray, and our lips and our mind are seldom in the practice of prayer.

The minister's public prayer, we hope, rises to the throne of grace; but more, it reaches the ear of all the people, and if the minister's prayer be in the Spirit and for comfort and the most needful things of his congregation then his people should all feel the urge of prayer and lift their petitions together to God, till all are conscious of His abiding presence.

Great prayers of all ages, are very short, very simple, very direct, very sincere. Fill your soul with your needs, and your love and your appreciation, then pour it out to God, that is prayer. So Lord, teach us to pray.

Geo. M. Hulme

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 GEORGE M. HULME, Minister
 859 Ardmore Ave., Akron—UN-1685

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

Drawer C
 Stow, Summit County, Ohio. Published weekly. Subscription price 50c a year. Entered as second class matter May 4, 1937 at the Postoffice at Stow, Ohio, under Act of March 3, 1879. Office of publication, 360 W. Arndale Rd., Stow. H. J. Stockman, Editor. Phone OV-8771.

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

March 12

**JESUS BETRAYED, DENIED,
 AND CONDEMNED**

Golden Text—He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. Isaiah 53:3.

When Judas perceived that the enemies of Jesus were about to plot his death and that he would not try to save himself, he betrayed his Lord into their hands by a signal, the "kiss of death." Thus began the suffering of Jesus. It must surely have hurt him deeply to be sold out by one whom he had loved and trusted for years. Judas let the purse strings control his life, as does anyone who acquires money with no regard for the rights and happiness of others. However the dreadful crime at once drove him to suicide so that his life only

ended in disgrace when it might far better have been offered up in noble service for Christ.

Next, Peter, who had stoutly asserted his loyalty a short time before, became frightened by the turn of events and when challenged as an associate of Jesus denied even knowing him. Peter at this time was afraid to be connected with the suffering of Jesus, but he dearly loved him and later was to prove it by powerful preaching and death on his own cross.

Then there was Pilate who condemned Jesus, not because he was guilty of any wrong for Pilate saw in him a blameless young man, quiet, fearless, with a purity that impressed him. Because his political position was threatened Pilate allowed Jesus to be killed.

Three men have been censured by Christians for ages because of their avarice, selfish disloyalty and weakness, but who am I to judge them unless I can check the right answer to such a question as: Does my use of money honor or dishonor God? When a denial would prevent ridicule or bodily harm could I say, "Yes, I know Jesus?" If my financial

**What
 everyman
 owes!**



ROOSEVELT said "Every man owes part of his time to the profession to which he belongs." Our entire effort is to raise by our example the standards of our vocation.

THE MCGOWAN FUNERAL HOME

security were in the balance would I please the crowd or stand with Christ?

Hazel Gillam

EVENING SERVICE

This Sunday, March 12th, seven to eight P. M. the Young Peoples Class of the Stow Community Church will hold its semi-monthly Sunday Night Service.

Mr. Mitten, the guest speaker, will talk on The High School Age. All of High School age and their parents are invited. Remember the time is 7:00 P. M.

THE RED CROSS

Some thirty men and women are now engaged in making a house to house canvas of our township in the interest of securing funds for the Red Cross. Never has there been a finer spirit of cooperation than has been manifested this year. It has been no trouble at all to secure the necessary help. All we have needed to do was to ask and our request was granted. These are busy people but they willingly give of their spare moments to get out and cover their territory. If the same fine spirit of cooperation is shown upon the part of those who contribute of their money there will be no question as to the final results in our township. The Red Cross has rendered a real service to some of the families in our community which have sons and daughters in the armed forces. None of us know how soon we too may be in need of such help, or our loved ones far away.

Truly "the Red Cross is at his side," ready to help in time of need. May we ask two things of our people? If you are expected to give through the office or factory where you are employed, will you please divide your gift so that a part of it may be given to the solicitor who calls at your door? And, in case no one has called at your home by the 15th of this month, will you please phone your township chairman and he will call at your home and receive your contribution?

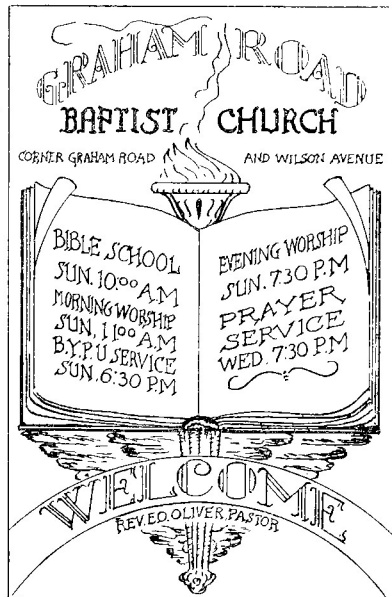
Rev. L. M. Gregory,

Township Chairman

OVerdale 8450

CLASS MEETING

Hazel Gillam's Bible Class will hold their business meeting Saturday evening, March 11, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Round on Graham Road. This will also be the "Buddy Party"



For Sundaes, Sodas, Ice Cream—All Dairy Products

ISALY'S *In Stow*

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

The Stow Township Council of Defense is taking the opportunity to thank all who so generously contributed of their time and effort, to make the waste paper collection, in Stow, a success. 23 tons of paper were collected.

Compared with the 4,000,000 tons of paper and paper products needed in 1944 for the war effort, this is a trifling amount, but to those 23 tons of paper should be added the desire, on behalf of the citizens of Stow, to cooperate in the finest way possible, in every undertaking that supports our fight for freedom.

Special mention is due those who furnished trucks: I. O. Palmer, B. B. Mineard, Stow Dairy, E. M. Guise, O. S. Lukens, Thomas & Doran, Township Trustees and Summit County Highway Department; the Air Raid Wardens, Auxiliary Firemen, Auxiliary Police and four Boy Scouts, totaling 48 who worked on the trucks in addition to the drivers, and Mrs. Tyler, block leader, and her neighborhood leaders, who did a fine job of getting the information to the people.

Everybody's effort was appreciated... We thank them all.

STOW TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

when names of buddies for the past year will be revealed.

MARRIED

Miss Eleanor Baker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baker of Moreley Ave., Akron and Mr. Richard "Dick" Lawson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Lawson, East Arndale Rd., Stow, were united in marriage on Wednesday of last week (March 1st). The ceremony took place in the Reformed Church on Broadway, Akron.

After a short trip the latter part of the week to nearby points, the bride returned to her work on Tuesday of this week as student nurse at the City Hospital, while the groom, having passed all requirements necessary to enter the armed forces of Uncle Sam, awaits traveling orders to an army reception center.

MARRIED

Miss Willa Burt Orr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Orr, Tall-

For That Good GULF GAS . . .

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And

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—WA-0869—

madge, and Leland P. Shuman, U.S.N.R., son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shuman of Meadowbrook Lake, were united in marriage at eight o'clock, Thursday evening, February twenty-fourth, at the Congregational Church, Tallmadge. Rev. Seim officiating.

The church was filled with relatives and friends. Miss Margaret Orr attended her sister as maid of honor and Mrs. Ray Beacham as bridesmaid. David Shuman, brother of the groom acted as best man.

John Orr, brother of the bride and Homer Cross, were ushers. A reception followed at the home of the brides parents.

Before returning home Leland ("Bud") completed his aerial gunner's training at Miami. He left last Thursday, March 2, for Rhode Island, where he will be stationed for a short time.

EXPLANATION

If this issue of the C. C. News is not of the usual size blame it on the motor. We just did get thru with the last week's issue when the motor practically burned up. This week it may be necessary to install another motor in which case time to print everything offered for publication will be at a premium.

STOW PARENT-TEACHER MEETING

Dr. Shaffer from the County

Health Department will give a talk on "Dental Health" and Mr. Kenneth Newton, instrumental music instructor in the Stow schools, will play several violin solos at the next meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association in the high school auditorium, Tuesday evening, March 14 at 7:30. Mothers of the seventh and eighth grades will have charge of the social hour after the meeting.

Financial Report of the Carnival on Feb. 19—Total receipts, \$1234.31; disbursements, \$401.54; net receipts, \$832.97.

SCHOOL NEWS

Stow was defeated by Springfield in the tournament at Kent. The score was 37-22. Three of Stow's players got put out on fouls.

A Girl's basketball tournament will be played Tues., Wed., and Thurs. of this week. The games will be refereed by Jean Blackwelder and George Lyons.

Plans are now being made for a es. R. Dance.

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FISH CREEK

Mrs. Kenneth Bashman just returned from a visit with relatives in Parkersburg, W. Va. and enjoyed seeing early cherry trees, daffodils, and other spring flowers in bloom.

On March ninth, Karl Witsaman enjoyed his eighth birthday at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Brittan, where Earl and his family have lived since moving back to Ohio from New York. Two weeks earlier while coasting Earl broke his right arm.

Tim Schuette is another Fish Creek boy with his left arm in a cast, having broken it while skating. Tim broke his right arm a little over a year ago.

Mrs. Hoffman, the former Josephine Reid Cropley, writes from her new home in Forest Hill, Pa., of missing her Fish Creek and Stow neighbors.

Mrs. Herman Shuette has been in the St. Thomas Hospital, having spent five days in an oxygen tent because of asthma.

Fern Brittan says it pays to advertise. More renewal subscriptions are being turned in from subscribers who had not previously given theirs.

War stamp sales on March 1 in Stow grade school were \$249.55; junior high, \$142.35; high school, \$131.15.

ROBERT IMHOFF
INSURANCE—All Types
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 141 Williamson Rd. OV-8618
 Open Evenings

PERSONALS

Victor Baughman is now in Italy.

Mite box collection last Sunday amounted to \$57.88.

FOR SALE—Upright Piano in good condition. OV-8970. (adv.)

Joe Fisher, Jr. and Eddie Starner are now reported as being in Australia.

FOR SALE—Heavy hens. J. Etter, 227 Marhofer Ave., Stow. (adv.)

Mrs. Cecil Morris entertained the Metz Missionary Society last Thursday, March 2nd.

FOR SALE — Puppies, part Scottie, eight weeks old. Reasonable. OV-8677. (adv.)

One birthday, that of Bill Large, was celebrated at Bible School last Sunday.

Need Sand or Gravel? Call Thomas and Doran, WA-0843. (adv.)

With an attendance of 94% the Girls Bible Class taught by Mrs. Davis won the banner last Sunday.

Garden plowing and fitting. Good work. Cash. Louis Griggy, Ritchie Road, OV-8407. (adv.)

Curt Husted was reported as being in the hospital last week for a nose operation, and this week he expects to have his tonsils removed.

FOR SALE—One combination lard and fruit press. 1/2 gallon crock, 1 large size jug and bottles. Call OV-8932. (adv.)

C. M. Carson of Silver Lake and Winter Haven, Florida, returned Tuesday, Feb. 7th after a six week's stay in Florida where he has been convalescing after a recent illness.

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KENT STOW MARKET

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A note from Frank Green. Here is a news item that may interest some of you old timers. In the summer of 1876 a party of young people from around here attended the Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia. They were Alfred Gaylord, his sister Clara Gaylord Randall, Prue Randall, sister-in-law of Clara and aunt of Mrs. Bess Bixler, Ed Wetmore, George L. Darrow and Charlie Beckwith. Charlie is the only one now living of this party. My grandmother Stow went alone to the great fair and brought back gifts to each of her grandchildren.

The Valley Sportsmen's Association meet on the third Thursday evening of each month at the Town Hall. Remember the date.

The two following items quoted from the columns of a neighboring weekly publication should have been included in our copy in an earlier issue, and, while probably not news to most of the home folks our readers in distant points will no doubt be interested.

Lt. and Mrs. Robert Bernard Heuser have gone to Austin, Tex., to make their home, after being wedded in St. Joseph's church while he was at home on furlough. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Bertha Heuser, 1853 Sixth st., Cuyahoga Falls, and the bride

is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Forbs, Stow.

Sergt. Dale Palmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. O. Palmer of Stow, has returned to Camp Gordon, Ga., after announcing his engagement to Miss Elaine Picketts, daughter of Mrs. Sue Picketts, 2503 Fourth st., Cuyahoga Falls. Both young people were graduates of Stow High School. Wedding plans are indefinite.

STATEMENT

For those who are interested in how the Community Church News fared financially in 1943 we publish the following figures:

Received Jan. 1st to

Dec. 31st, 1943 \$2,540.69

Paid an. 1st to

Dec. 31st, 1943 2,498.90

Balance 41.79

Included in the above amount listed as received, subscription monies and donations amount to \$1,697.99.

Practically all of the rest is advertising income.

This is the first year that we recall, in which there has not been a deficit. For this fact we have to thank, besides our advertisers, the many people who made payments for subscriptions, sponsored pages and made outright contributions.

H. J. S.

STOW MARKET

QUALITY MEATS and GROCERIES

Fruits and Vegetables

Birds Eye Foods

JOE FISHER, Proprietor

LEST WE FORGET

This week I want you to read with me from the letter I received a week or so ago from a boy who used to sit in my sociology class in Falls High.

"I seemed lost while I was home on furlough and seemed out of place. The thing that made me feel lost and as if I wanted to go back right away was the absence of all the young men and women of my own age. The old town doesn't seem the same with all the young people

gone. The impression I drew of the Falls was that the people were too busy to bother with the soldier on leave. To contrast the people here and in the Falls, a man in uniform out here doesn't need to stand an hour in one place to get a ride. The people out here are more war-conscious, I guess, than they are in Ohio."

This boy is a member of the 107th Cavalry Band and stationed at Fort Ord, California. Does his letter sound like a sermon that we need in Stow? The place he mentions as "too busy to bother with a soldier on leave" is just around the corner. Can it be that some of our boys feel the same way about Stow when they come back for a few days? Do we get so wrapped up in income tax and overtime and bonds and Red Cross and a thousand other worthwhile things that we can't find time for his or her entertainment? This boy has been in the army now about four years. He thinks a soldier's thoughts and speaks a soldier's language. It isn't easy for him to feel at ease among us. He needs special attention so that he will feel included in our conversation.

If we are not careful we shall leave him outside when we talk. Entertainment must be planned for him so that he will feel that he is wanted and that we have time for him. We mustn't get too busy to have time for him—yes, plenty of time. He is giving all his time for us.

And oh, girls, don't forget to write to the boys who are away. They will enjoy your letters more than anything I can ever write.

Joe A. Mitten

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STOW DAIRY

A. F. STEIN, Prop.

LETTER

Saturday, Feb. 26, 1944
8:00 O'clock

Dear Mr. Stockman:

Just a few lines to let you know that I receive the C. C. News and am glad to get it.

I was married Nov. 24, 1943 and my wife is an Akron girl. I came to the Army Dec. 21, 1943. I am well and doing fine in training being in the Harbor Craft Co.

Well, Mr. Stockman I am running out of news from here so bye-bye and good luck.

Yours truly,

Pvt. Kenneth L. Richards,
35922858

343 Harbor Craft Co.

H. C. T. C.

Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla.

ED. NOTE: It is nice to be married to a good wife but not so nice to be forced to be away from home. Write again and tell us more.

H. J. S.

LETTER

1 Mar. 1944

Dear Mr. Stockman:

Ever since I started receiving the Community News, I've been going to write and thank you and all the others who make it possible for me to receive it. I especially enjoy the letters that other "Stowites" write to you, and also it interests me to know who is home on leave. I noticed in the last few issues that I've received, that quite a few of my classmates were back in Stow for a few days. I would like very much to have seen them, but since I couldn't I hope when the war is over, the class of 1942 can have a second reunion with everyone present.

I completed my "boot training" at Hunter College in New York and then I was sent to Iowa State Teachers College, where I am at present. My training here is for three months and after it is completed, I'll be a Yeoman third class—I hope.

As an added treat, we get a short leave. Since my training is almost up, I'm planning on being home in the very near future. It will be swell to see all of my old friends again, but when my leave is over, I'll be glad to get

to my new station and to get started with my new job as a Yeoman.

Again I want to thank you for the Community News and if by mistake this letter is printed, I'd like to wish all the Stow fellows and girls in the service, all the luck in the world and God be with the ones "over there."

Sincerely,

Wanda L. Keenan S2/c

N.T.S. No. 4219 (Y-W)

Cedar Falls, Iowa

ED. NOTE: Yes this letter will be printed but not by mistake, for your letter will be of much interest to others even as their's is of interest to you. And when you get a permanent station write again and tell us about it. And don't forget to send us your correct address.

H. J. S.

This page sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mitscher of Fish Creek.

LETTER

South West Pacific
Feb. 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Stockman:

I'll try and drop you a few lines to let you know I haven't received but two copies of the C. C. News since I've been moved to this island. I sure hope it starts to come regular now.

The weather here is about the same as always—plenty hot and plenty of rain. While it is raining it cools off, but after its hotter than before.

Since my last writing I've been promoted to the rank of Corporal, which I was a long time making, but I guess rank is hard to make in the Air Force.

At this time I want to thank all people that make the C. C. News possible for the servicemen overseas. It really comes in handy and helps keep the morale up to the highest standard.

Not much news over here except that we are doing our best in keeping them flying.

Again I want to thank all the people of Stow for the C. C. News.

As ever, a friend and Stowite,
Corp. Charles F. Miller

35382455

APO 717 c-o P. M.

San Francisco, Cal.

ED. NOTE: We are sorry to hear that you have not been receiving all copies of the C. C. News. One other boy in the South or Central Pacific writes home to the same effect. Possibly you are on the move too much and the papers do not catch up. If you receive this copy O. K. write us and let us know. H. J. S.

LETTER

ED. NOTE: While no name is attached to this letter for reasons indicated in the letter, we feel sure that you will be interested in the minister's reply.

Feb. 15, 1944

Dear Rev. Hulme:

How are you? I sure hope this letter finds you well. Gee it seems just a short time ago that as a little boy I sat in the church and listened to you preach and pray and how I did enjoy it too.

I never will forget you and your wife Sir, you two are sure grand people. I wish that I could come back once more before I go to the battlefield.

But I'm fighting a bigger battle now than there will be over there I'm sure, that is my sole purpose in writing to you now. Rev., I want you to pray for me. I want so much to be on the Lord's side before I go and I don't think it will be long. So if you will Sir tell all the gang hello and don't tell my folks about me going.

Thanking you,

I remain,

Feb. 19, 1944

My Dear Friend:

I received your very interesting letter yesterday, the 18th. I hope you will receive my reply before you are moved on to the grim reality of war.

I have been sitting alone in my study, thinking of you, your request for prayer and your desire to be at peace with God. — no man has ever come to our Christ honest and sincere, and been cast aside.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Mark 16.16. "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Acts 2.21. If thou shalt confess

with thy mouth the Lord Jesus Christ and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Romans 10.9.

Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die John 11.26. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3.16.

Learn these scriptures, keep them active in your mind, talk to our Lord as you would to a friend, He will hear you, He will save you, He will abide with and comfort you.

You may still think of me as your Minister and I will think of you as the little boy of a few years ago and now a defender of our country. Be brave, be true to your own manhood and rely on God for all things. Trust Him when it is dark and up-hill and lonely and when you may fear all is lost, it is then that He will take your hand and lead you safely on.

May God bless and save and use you and bring you safely home.

Your sincere friend,
Rev. George M. Hulme,
859 Ardmore Ave.
Akron, Ohio

This page sponsored by Mr. Joe Fisher.

LETTER

U. S. COAST GUARD
TRAINING STATION
Palm Beach, Florida

Feb. 16, 1944

Hello Folks:

How is everybody in good old Stow? It seems like a long time since I walked the dark and lonely streets of Stow, but it has only been four weeks.

I don't think I have ever spent four such full weeks though. With our medicals, shots, dental appointments, clothing appointments, classes, first aid, drills, and a few other things thrown in on the side we have been very busy girls.

Outside of going to Chapel on Sunday we have the greatest part of the day to ourselves. We

have a very good chaplain here. Last week there was a soldier who came in from Camp Murphy and song two solos—he was very good, he sang, "The Lord's Prayer" and something else. Mr. Davis might be interested in knowing that I am always on time for Chapel—maybe I will get into the habit, I hope.

My sister and family were down last Sunday and took me out sight-seeing. We had a wonderful time, there is so much beauty down here that you just start out and anywhere you go is something outstanding.

I am receiving the church paper and really look forward to getting it, but it is late. I just got the one for February 4th today. I can realize now how much the boys must look forward to getting it. It seems like it really contains all the news from home.

I was very sorry to see where Mr. Stahl had passed away. He always seemed like such a nice man, always so pleasant and friendly.

I suppose there will be a lot of changes in Stow before I get back again.

Here is a little poem I found in one of our booklets, that you might like:

"Three Gates Of Gold"

If you are tempted to reveal
A tale someone has told
About another, make it pass
Before you speak, three gates of
gold;

Three narrow gates—first, "Is it
true?"

Then, "Is it needful?" in your
mind

Give truthful answer, and the next
Is last and narrowest—"Is it
kind?"

And if to reach your lips at last
It passes through these gateways
three,

Then you may tell, without a fear
What the result of speech may be.

—Author Unknown

It seems like it would fit so
many people, including myself.

As for me, I am really enjoying
myself. I wouldn't have
missed this opportunity for anything.
I probably will never get
past second class seaman, but I
can dream.

I could probably ramble on for
a long time, but I will be kind

and considerate and close now by
saying goodbye and good luck to
everyone.

Love,

Clara E. Gillam A/S
Co. 142-8 Billet 553-6
U. S. Coast Guard Tra. Sta.
Palm Beach, Florida

ED. NOTE: How come your
letter was dated Feb. 16 and post-
marked two weeks later? Did
you give it to some soldier who
forgot to mail it? And why
didn't you send us one of those
pictures you had taken under the
palm tree?

However, seriously speaking,
we were much pleased to receive
your letter and know that you
are enjoying yourself. You
know, it is not every one that can
have the government pay all ex-
penses for a trip to Florida.

Regarding the poem, it is good.
And we hope that all the women
of Stow read it and take it to
heart. As for the men needing
such advice—no comment.

Thank you for the good letter,
and write again. And next time
mail it yourself so it will not be
delayed.

H. J. S.

—This Page sponsored by Mr.
and Mrs. F. B. Bailey, 368 West
Kent Rd.

LETTER

Signal Photomail Co.
South Post, Fort Myer, Va.
March 2, 1944

Dear Mr. Stockman:

It is not often that I will in-
dulge in a game of chance where
GI fortunes delight in changing
hands but such is the case the
first of every month when those
fortunate enough to have signed
the payroll receive their pay. And
I like to dream of the day when,
after barely escaping a section
eight (eight passes in a row), I
won't have to sign a statement of
charges for a new pair of pants.
That day will undoubtedly come
but I have decided not to wait
until it does to thank you for
sending me the Community
Church News.

It was one year ago, March 5,
1943, that I left the University of
Southern California and traveled
by bus out to the Reception Cen-
ter at Fort MacArthur, California.

According to a Palmist who peered into my personality the other night at a SPAR Dance I should have had no difficulty in adjusting myself to Army life. During my few weeks basic Signal Corps training at Camp Kohler, California my palm and what was more important my feet were too sore for me to be convinced that my adjustment from civilian to Army life was easy. On the contrary I didn't regret in the least leaving the memory of muddy drill fields and tar-paper covered barracks for the Signal Photographic Center at Astoria, New York. Now when chow becomes intolerable, and my pay having caught up with me, I could satisfy my desire for food like mother never hoped to make at such places as the Hotel Astor, Lindy's, or Reuben's. Yet I was a steady guest for lunch at the USO Clubs when we rationed off the post.

Months passed quickly at Astoria and before I knew it I was considered a Combat Motion Picture Photographer capable of photographing anything from Times Square, rain or shine, to seals in Central Park. Therefore, and in view of my 043 rating, I was raised to the rank of Private First Class (usually abbreviated PFC which should not be confused with 'Poor Financial Condition') and sent on detached service to Fort Dix, New Jersey. Now for the first and only time in the Army I ate marvelous food, hiked until I wanted my knees re-capped, and slept four in a tent. After three weeks of this conditioning the Officers could take no more so back to Astoria we went fully confident that we were qualified 'Subway Commandos' and ready for overseas action.

For the next four or five months I was alerted and waited for overseas duty. I didn't complain but I became restless doing nothing but seeing Broadway plays, haunting the Stage Door Canteen, and sleeping until nine in the morning. Shipping orders never impressed me until one day last January I discovered that I had been transferred to Fort Myer, Virginia. In the latrine where the army speaks it's mind (and an ideal atmosphere considering the thoughts) I exclaimed that they could not do this to me

but I'm here and deprived of my sleep, not such bad food after all, and Times Square which I find I miss.

No longer 'Subway Commandos' but 'V-Male' WAC's or 'Chair' borne Troops (as we call ourselves) we march every day into the famous Pentagon Building at Washington. There our photographic work is no longer artistic, glamorous, or exciting but probably a great deal more appreciated by the soldier overseas. We operate the equipment for photographing V-Mail documents onto 16mm film, processing the film, and enlarging the letters from other stations. At the completion of our training we will be sent overseas where we will do our part in re-producing over 40,000,000 V-Mail letters per month.

In spite of the six thousand girls just over the fence at Arlington Farms who are constantly giving dances to keep up their morale, most fellows think of home and hope for the day when they can return to their loved ones arms. Everyone becomes disgusted at times and some get tight on GI beer but when you live with them you become tolerant, understanding, a more learned person, and thankful for the blessings God gave you.

Keep up the Community Church News for I know those in Service appreciate hearing from home. Please pass on my appreciation for your thoughtfulness to all those responsible for sending me my copy.

As always,
(Signed) AT WILLIAMS
Warren A. Williams
Signal Photomail Co.
South Post, Fort Myer Va.

ED. NOTE: No doubt your former classmates and all others will read your letter with delight and several chuckles. Since lengthy comment by us would be an anti-climax—or something of the sort—we will merely say that you make a first rate war correspondent and hope you don't wait another year before writing a similar letter. H. J. S.

This Page sponsored by the Men's Bible Class, Stow Church of Christ.