

The Hastings News

VOLUME XXXIV, Number 33

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, N. Y., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Sgt. Wood, Not Too Old To Fight, Back On Gripsholm

Former Hastings Man, 46 Years Old, Has Been German Prisoner

A war story of a Hastings man who was not too old to fight, came to light here today with the return of Staff Sgt. Howard Wood, one of the 218 war prisoners brought back on the Gripsholm from Germany. The men are convalescing at Halloran General Hospital on Staten Island.

Sgt. Wood, who made his home here at River Glen apartment for a number of years, was past draft age, neighbors recalled, but a veteran of World War I he wished to get into the fight. Leaving his business he undertook a rigorous training course on a farm and within a few months had conditioned himself so that he was able to pass the army examinations with flying colors.

Entering the Army at the age of 44 he went through all the routine work which men in their early twenties find exceedingly strenuous. He became a radio gunner and was promoted to sergeant. The early European bombing found Sgt. Wood in the fray. He participated in approximately 20 missions over Europe before his plane, "Red Baby" was brought down. He was wounded and taken prisoner after he and the rest of the crew had parachuted to earth. For the past year he had been a prisoner in German camps.

Of this life he told reporters today:

"It was not too bad, but I didn't take to the manner in which we were taken to prison camps. Frequently we were moved from camp to camp, packed in box cars like cattle."

Sgt. Wood asserted that the Germans were exceedingly weary of the war and they were hoping for the invasion of France long before it happened because they wished an end of fighting, regardless as to who won. The older men, especially, are tired of the war, he said.

Mrs. Wood is now making her home in Chicago. Sgt. Wood has three children.

Robert N. Deatly Is Named Captain

Robert N. Deatly of 176 Old Broadway, Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y., has been promoted to the grade of captain. It was announced from the headquarters of his B-26 Marauder bomber group in the Mediterranean theater.

Capt. Deatly is a pilot and the commanding officer of his Marauder squadron. A veteran of more than 55 combat missions, he has been overseas since November 1943. On a majority of his missions the 25-year-old pilot flies as either flight commander or lead pilot for his squadron or group.

Capt. Deatly has been awarded the Air Medal and Purple Heart. Before entering the Army in March 1941, he was the New England representative for A. McAuley, 40 Worth Street, New York City, in civilian life. He and his group were recently cited by Gen. Charles de Gaulle and the provisional French government for outstanding achievement during April, May and June.

Mrs. Deatly, the former Joy Louise Harte, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Harte, of Hastings.

GUESTS EXPECTED?
Orders for Wines, Liquors and Cordials Taken for Delivery
Up to 10 P. M.
Home Delivery
FERRERA'S
Hastings 1028

Wins Commission



Recently commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, Paul H. Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Thomas, Graham School, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, has completed the reserve officer's course at the Marine base, Quantico, Virginia, and has been assigned to a Leatherneck unit for advanced training. Lt. Thomas was married Sunday morning in the Graham School chapel to Miss Joan Phyllis McArthur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Roy McArthur, Huron, S. D.

Major Brown Named As Aleutian Head

Major Herbert L. Brown of Hastings, has been named in command of the administration of the new 59th Army Airways Communication Systems (AACS) Group in Alaska and the Aleutians according to official announcement. Major and Mrs. Brown make their home at 32 Fernside Drive.

A story published in the Anchorage Daily Times at Anchorage, Alaska, describes the administrative setup as follows:

ELEVENTH AAF HEADQUARTERS—Administrative setup of the new 59th Army Airways Communication System Group, which covers southeastern and southwestern Alaska and the Aleutian Islands under a major reorganization of AACS over the world, has now been completed with headquarters at APO 980, with Major Herbert L. Brown, Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y., in command.

The new AACS group is comprised of two squadrons, one at APO 980, with Capt. Frederick D. Boyd, Kenilworth, Ill., in command, and the other at Anchorage, with Capt. William M. Keay, Kent.

PTA To Hold Annual Fall Party Oct. 10th

The Hastings Parent-Teacher's Association is arranging its annual Fall party. It will be held on Tuesday evening, October 10th, in the gymnasium of the High School at 8:15 o'clock. There will be a reception from 8:15 until 9:00 P. M., at which time parents may meet teachers. Then everybody will join in the square dancing. Philip Merrill and his accompanist from the Country Dance Society in New York City, who were much enjoyed last year, will call the dances.

Parents and teachers who are new residents in the community are especially invited.

PAPER COLLECTION MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

The Salvation Army trucks will be in Hastings on Monday, October 2, to collect waste paper. Please turn in all waste scrap paper, old magazines and books, brown and corrugated paper and rags.

Giants Lose Doubleheader, But Find Consolation In Hastings

Seven members of the New York Giants found consolation as guests at the annual Rotary Baseball League dinner at the Rock House, Tuesday evening, after having lost a doubleheader to the Cincinnati Reds at the Polo Grounds in the afternoon.

Giants present at the reception given to the 14 members of the Hastings Indians, Rotary League Junior champions of Hastings and Dobbs Ferry, included Johnny Rucker, Andy Hansen, Buddy Kerr, Bill Voiselle, George Hausmann, Harry Feldman and Trainer Schaeffer.

Thomas F. Reynolds of Hastings was toastmaster at the 18th dinner as he has at those in the past. Benjamin H. Adler, president of the Hastings-Dobbs Ferry-Ardsley Club, opened the meeting with a brief talk. James Leddy, chairman of Rotary Boys' Service, conducted the presentation of trophies, silver baseballs to the Indians.

Speakers at the dinner included: Police Commissioner Desmond T. Barry, representing Mayor William Steinschneider and the Board of Trustees; Acting Mayor Patrick J. Powers of North Tarrytown; James O'Neill, former big league ball player, of Hastings; Police Officer Edward Campion, Rotary League umpire; Clifford White, recreational director, who was in charge of the league this year; and John

Burke, sponsor of the Hastings Indians.

Baseballs autographed by all members of the Giants were presented by Trainer Schaeffer to Phil Klipp, Jr., pitcher, and Nelson MacCallum, second baseman, who were voted by the Indians as the two outstanding players of the team.

Each member of the Giants spoke briefly, describing some incident of the season or of his baseball career. Pitcher Feldman recalled that he was no stranger to Hastings, having pitched for a number of years with Elmsford in the old Hudson Valley League, of which Mr. Burke was then president. The silver baseball trophies were presented by the Giants to the Indians.

Other guests at the dinner included Peter Young, Phil Klipp and William A. Whittaker.

Previous to the dinner the Indians together with a group of Rotarians attended the doubleheader at the Polo Grounds. The return trip was made with a police escort.

Members of the Indians include: MacCallum, Klipp, Joseph Zalozka, Richard Schmitz, Donald Hoss, Mallon Prior, Joseph Caradi, William Kohl, Paul Cardaci, Peter DiChiara, Jack Pettigrew, Henry Pauano, Jack Tassio and Jules Zeph.

Marian Sirotak Weds Lt. Wm. King

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sirotak of 40 Whitman Street, announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Marian Marcin Sirotak, to Lt. William J. King, Army Air Forces, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. King of 27 Saratoga Avenue, Yonkers.

Miss Sirotak, a graduate of Hastings High School and Barnard College, is a chemist with the J. C. Penney Research Laboratories in New York City.

Lt. King was graduated from Manhattan Preparatory School and Manhattan College. He received a master's degree of science from Fordham University where he was an instructor in chemistry before entering the service. Lt. King was commissioned at the Army Air Force Technical School at Yale University.

McGINIGLE IN FRANCE
Cpl. Alex McGinagle, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McGinagle, 9 Travis Place, who is attached to Headquarters and Supply Company of an engineers' unit, has arrived in France, according to word received here.

George C. Fraser Promoted To Colonel At U. S. Army Base In West Africa

Promotion of George C. Fraser, of Hastings, from lieutenant colonel to colonel has been announced by the U. S. Army. Col. Fraser is now commanding officer of the West African base with headquarters in Senegal.

A story of his promotion which was carried in "Bonjour," the West Africa U. S. Army newspaper, follows:

By Staff Sgt. Ken Abbott
This week Lt. Col. George C. Fraser, commanding officer of this base, has received official word from the War Department, Washington, D. C., of his promotion in rank to full colonel, effective as of August 25, 1944.

It is to be remembered that the newly promoted colonel assumed command of the 1254th AAF Unit, NAFF-ATC, on last July 5 when he relieved the former Commanding Officer Col. Keen.

Hastings Red Cross Workers Pack Boxes

Over six thousand Christmas boxes for wounded American soldiers in hospitals overseas, were filled and packed in cartons for shipment last Wednesday at County Headquarters in White Plains by twelve Red Cross workers of Hastings working with five other groups from other communities in the county. The Hastings group included Mrs. Howard Drake, Mrs. Louis Bailey, Mrs. Charles Graef, Mrs. Chester Scott, Mrs. Warren Tower, Mrs. Arthur Pickett, Mrs. William J. Daley, Mrs. Richard Koch, Mrs. Albert Wessner, Mrs. Joseph Young, Mrs. Eugene Trimpin, Mrs. Ralph Menconi.

A total of 32,400 Christmas boxes is Westchester's quota for wounded service men overseas. The boxes this year which will be distributed on Christmas Day to all American soldiers in hospitals abroad contain an oil silk tobacco pouch, postal cards, photograph case, metal mirror, three miniature novels, chewing gum, address book, cigarettes and candy.

Since that time he had done much to make our base a better place to live, promoted recreation, and took a firm stand on health measures that have guarded the members of his command from unnecessary hospitalization. He has the sincere co-operation of the men and the respectful devotion to duty of the officers.

Born on December 31, 1896, in Washington, D. C. He first entered as a student from 1910-1915 at the Hill School, Pottstown, Pa., where he majored in a scientific course. From 1916 to 1917 he was a student at Princeton University in the Engineering School. In 1917 he left Princeton to enlist in the U. S. Army.

He was assigned to the Signal Corps photo section. He went overseas in October of 1917 with the 201st Aero Squadron as a corporal. He went to Officers' Candidate School at Camp...

(Continued on Page 8)

Cited For Heroism



Col. Bell Wins Highest Award

The combat infantry badge for exemplary action against the enemy, highest award obtainable by an infantryman, has been given Col. Robert P. Bell, now on active duty in France. The award was made the middle of August.

A member of the regular army twenty-five years, Col. Bell has served in six campaigns, was in World War I and with the Army of Occupation after that war. He has been in Iceland two years during the present war and was later transferred to England.

Col. Bell is the son of Mrs. George Bell of 122 Edgars Lane, and the late George Bell who died last May 1, at the age of 92.

Hastings Boy Longs For Quiet Hudson

By Navy Public Relations Office
ABROAD A DESTROYER ESCORT AT SEA—When the crew of this escort vessel sits back on the fan-tail during twilight hours, Edward Cusack, 19, Seaman First Class, from Hastings-on-Hudson, relates the story of the Albany Night Boat—with a parting tear for the placid Hudson River. For Cusack, who lives at 425 Warburton Avenue, has seen nothing but rough ocean since he joined the Navy in December, 1942.

A short-order cook at the Hastings Diner in civilian days, Cusack was set to work boiling up a mess of anti-aircraft gunnery for the enemy as he donned Navy blues. After being assigned to one of the early destroyer escorts on convoy run, he was sent to this ship when she went into active service. His two campaign ribbons signify a great deal of service at sea.

Cusack, a red-headed bluejacket, is thinking of post-war plans at the moment. His "irl back home" is Mae Bloomer, of 22 Main Street. After the war, Cusack hopes to come back to Hastings-on-Hudson and settle down. In the meantime, he's sticking by his 20 m. m. gun and doing his part to speed the day of victory.

Literacy Tests Scheduled Here

Literacy tests for new voters in Hastings will be held at the following places and times:

Place: Hastings High School, Mt. Hope Boulevard entrance.
Evenings: 7 P. M. to 10 P. M., October 12, 13, 14, 20, 21.
Daytime: 10 A. M. to 5 P. M., October 13, 14, 20; 8 A. M. to 5 P. M., October 21.

Certificates of literacy will be issued to new voters whose credentials show that they have successfully completed sixth grade work or better; or to applicants who have completed a course in reading and writing English equivalent to sixth grade work. If applicants do not possess such credentials, they must take the literacy test.

Many Features Are Scheduled At Food Fair

Red Cross And War Council Sponsoring Nutrition Program

An outstanding feature of the Hastings Food Fair which will take place Saturday afternoon, Sept. 30, is the exhibition of nutritious breakfasts prepared by the Junior Red Cross Nutrition Class at the Hastings High School. The importance of the hearty breakfast is a part of the national nutritional program and the exhibition of well balanced meals to start the day as prepared by Hastings young people, be one of the most interesting scheduled for the Fair. The Food Fair, sponsored by the American Red Cross and the Hastings War Council opens at 2 P. M. From 3 to 4:30 P. M., Miss Betty Stafford, Nutritionist for the Westchester Lighting Company, will demonstrate how to cook point-free utility beef which will be in the markets this winter.

The Fair offers to home makers all types of information on how to get the greatest nutritional value out of the available food supply. The completed program includes an exhibition of lunches for the school child and for the industrial worker, a display showing the minimum needs of the seven basic foods for a family of four, a display of foods canned by the Red Cross Canteen Corps for Grasslands Hospital and a home canning contest. Those who are planning to enter the home canning contest are requested to bring products to the Community Room in the Municipal Building, Friday, Sept. 29, from 2 to 4:30 P. M. and Saturday, Sept. 30, from 10 A. M. to 12, when the entries officially close.

Chairmen in charge of the exhibitions as announced by Mrs. Cloy Meiske, director of Nutrition for the American Red Cross in Hastings and the Hastings War Council, are Mrs. James L. Berston, director of the Hastings Red Cross Canteen, who will be in charge of the exhibition of basic foods, assisted by Mrs. N. H. Francis, Mrs. Theodore Young, school and industrial lunches; Mrs. Dixon Griswold, chairman of the Hastings Junior Red Cross; Miss Parsons, director of the Home Economics, Hastings High School, will be in charge of the nutritional breakfasts prepared and exhibited by high school students. The canning contest will be in charge of Mrs. Richard Koch, assisted by Mrs. Ralph Breiling.

Everyone who attends the Fair will be given one of the new Basic 7 Food Guides, recently published by the National Committee on Nutrition. This will aid the homemaker in making meals balance and to choose alternatives for scarce food. In addition, all those who attend will have an opportunity to win a valuable door prize offered by a Hastings food merchant interested in the success of the Fair.

NOTICE

Boys and girls who have collected milk weed floss from the milkweed plants for life jackets for the armed forces, are asked to call Mrs. Cyrus Field Judson, Jr., Hastings 1698, or Mrs. Dixon Griswold, Hastings 996. Two bags of milkweed will yield enough floss for one life jacket. All those who have been collecting milkweed floss are urgently requested to turn it in during the next week.

For A Good LUNCH
TRY OUR SPECIAL!
Center Restaurant
538 Warburton Ave. Hastings

Food Fair, Saturday, Sept. 30th-Municipal Bldg.