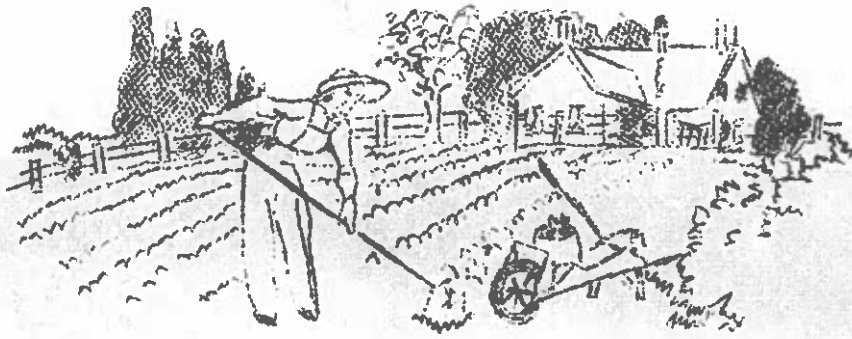


ROCK HILL MESSENGER



JUNE 1945

TO OUR FOLKS IN THE SERVICE
JUNE 1945

Dear Friends,

This is a ~~hurry-up~~ letter dashed off in between jobs. The past week we have had Vacation Church School at the church every morning. There is a fine group of youngsters - your brothers, sisters, and friends there. Kids from 3 to 15. They are having a great time learning about the church and about our Lord Jesus Christ and what it means to be a Christian. The boys are making a little toy and the girls are doing various things such as sewing, and wood carving. Then in the afternoons there has been haying. It is late due to the rains. The preacher is as interested in it as the rest for he is sharing that 6 acres below the school and next to the manse property with Elmer Nichol. He hopes to have some feed for a cow and at least enough to keep the present calf, "Betsy", in good feed during the next winter. Dick Giffin came over with his tractor and cut the field (mostly weeds) below the garden. We have hopes of making a pasture out of that. In the chicken house now are 165 Leghorns 4 weeks old. And to top everything else off these youngsters have been keeping the preacher out until -- well, he's been in before midnight but sometimes not much before.

On Friday, June 15, our gang went to the County C. E. Banquet and business meeting. We had 13 present which was the largest group (total attendance 35). Two of our folks took part (besides the preacher being used as the fun end of some jokes). Jim Keyser and Chester Parker, Jr. led the devotions and did a very good job. Rev. McHendry gave a very fine talk. No officers elected. So Jr. Parker is still an officer in the County organization. I hope when new officers are elected that we will still be represented.

You know, these young people are really going places. In the Eastern Division of our Presbyterian Youth Organization, which is called Westminster Fellowship, Dorothy Nelson is secretary and Jim Keyser is Chairman of the Christian Outreach Commission. Jim also went as delegate to the Synod meeting of Westminster Fellowship at Wooster. Then tomorrow (Sunday, June 24) our young people are hosts to the Eastern district of the Westminster Fellowship. They are working hard to have things in good order.

Perhaps you may want to know something about Westminster Fellowship since it is relatively new. It is the official Presbyterian young peoples organization. On the denominational level, there is the Westminster Fellowship National Council. In the synod, there is the Synod and the Presbytery and may be, as in our case, two or more districts. In the local church, I believe, there is something new and vital for our young people. Westminster Fellowship does not displace any present organization. It is not a Sunday evening program or organization. Rather it is a unifying agency and program. "It is the way for all young people and their organizations to work together in an all-youth program in the church." In other words, it does not displace Christian Endeavor. "There are many Christian Endeavor Societies of Westminster Fellowship. These societies will find in Christian Endeavor unions, as well as in the United Christian Youth Movement, interdenominational fellowship."

We have now organized our Christian Endeavor Society so it can work with both Christian Endeavor and Westminster Fellowship and so have the advantages that come from affiliation with both groups. It should mean greater opportunities for our young people--opportunities for service and for growth. I am sure that many of you, when you return, will enjoy taking a part in our society and in the wider youth program of which it is becoming a vital part.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Fuller

CORRESPONDING EDITOR'S PAGE

(Dorothy's Address: Miss Dorothy Roth, R. F. D. #1, Bridgeport, Ohio)

Janet has given us part of a letter from Kenneth in which he tells about his and some of his buddies' reactions to the news of Germany's surrender. That portion of his letter follows:

"We just got the news over the public address system here in camp about the end of war with Germany. It really is grand news and we have waited a long time to hear it.

"The thing that really seemed strange here was, when the news came over the public address system, there was just one big hurrah from the fellows and no such celebrating as one would expect. Some of the fellows didn't even say anything about it, although they were all very glad. It seems as though it was something that they knew would come and just took it in a manner as another success in war. I noticed one fellow in particular who said, "Gee, that's great!" and then showed no other reaction to excitement whatsoever.

"I believe we all feel as though our loved ones and buddies cannot be brought back to us just because the Nazis have been beaten and we still have another war to finish before we can really enjoy peace. It just wouldn't be fair to celebrate now while some poor Joe is still sweating it out in some foxhole somewhere in the Pacific."

* * * * *

Mrs. Roth got a couple letters from Vernon written within just a few days of each other. His address has been completely changed and he's doing entirely different work. His address is as follows:

Pfc. Vernon L. Roth, 35631707
Co. I, 33rd Armd. Regt.
A. P. O. 253 % postmaster.
New York, New York

Vernon's first letter was dated May 26 in Germany. Part of it is as follows:

".....This is quite a place where we're living. We ran the people out of about a dozen houses when we came in, so we would have a good place to live. We have about every thing we need including radio, lights, running water and even a garden in the back yard. That reminds me, it will only be a few days till the strawberries will be ripe. There are plenty of chickens and ducks running around all so. So we sure aren't going to go hungry.

"This is Saturday morning and all the women are going by with pies and cakes taking them up to the bakery to have them baked. They look pretty good, so I'll have to break some rules tomorrow."

The V-mail wasn't dated but it reads like this:

Dear Mom,

Just a few lines this evening to let you know that I'm still O. K. The mail is beginning to come in again, even though some of it is from last January. I even got a Christmas package from Mary yesterday.

I guess you're wondering where I'm at. Well, I'm still in Germany, but not as far in as we were. We're just a few miles on the east side of the Rhine, not too far from Frankfort.

"You're probably also interested in what I'm doing now. Well I'm not doing much of anything at the present but standing inspection. But I'm in the Third Armored Division, which you've probably heard of, and I'm the assistant driver on a tank.

Love, Vernon

NEWS ITEMS

Russell Giffin has been appointed a member of the Pultney Township School Board to serve out the term of Harry Dixon, who resigned.

Mary Roth was home from Dayton on a two-weeks vacation the first of May.

Dick and Dot Roth named their baby Nancy Jean. She made her first public appearance at the Children's Day program. (Of course Mother and Daddy were present too.)

The Semper Fidelis Sunday School Class met at Leota Wise's home the 4th of May to make plans for a Mother's Day Party, and a supper which was served a Shadyside Christian Church group. The Mother's Party was held June 11 in the Grange Hall with 25 present. Florence Greenlee and Mrs. Fuller arranged the program.

3rd and 4th Degree Grange Initiation was given at the St. Clair Grange Hall on Thurs. Evening May 17. St. Clair's all-girls team (with Wilma McAllister as pianist) put on 3rd Degree and Rock Hill's officers team, the 4th. Had a nice class of candidates, approximately 25.

Grange Rural Life Sunday was observed on May 20 with Rev. Fuller delivering the address Sunday evening in the church. After the service, Mrs. C. E. Timberlake, of Shadyside, made the statement to me (Tootie) that too many country preachers seemed to look at their work as just something to do until they could get a 'better paying' job, but that Rev. Fuller glorifies his work and she praised him for it.

Capt. Wilbert St. John, who was home on furlough from the China-Burma-India Theater of War, was at Sunday School on May 20 and gave an interesting talk. His advice is to see America first. He spoke in church too about the primitive farming methods in the section of India that he saw most of. Wilby, as most of us call him, was looking well and hardy and he has a good tan. He has seen some pretty hot weather. He expected a short assignment in the States when he reported for duty on May 31. After that, he didn't know.

Bob Giffin was home on a 14-day furlough from Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, about the middle of May. He spent some of that time on Rock Hill.

Bessie Giffin dislocated her left elbow and fractured her left forearm in two places when the lower step of her stepladder broke and she fell. She didn't have the use of her arm for a couple weeks or longer, but she is doing fine now.

George McCloy spent a week in the Ohio Valley General Hospital beginning May 16, when he went there in a very run-down condition from diabetes. He is able to be around now and do some work and is feeling much better.

Flora Giffin, who has been rather lowly with rheumatism, has gone to her sister's to make her home and be cared for. Earl and Charley cook for each other they say.

Paul Galloway was on the sick list for a while but is back on his feet again.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Bernard Nelson of Aliquippa, Pa., announce the birth of a son Clark Bernard, on Friday, May 25, in Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, Pa.

There was some fixing done on the chicken house at the manse, but the 166 chicks that came to the Fullers got their start in the basement, so I understand.

Rock Hill had four high school graduates this spring: Dorothy Nelson, Boyd Nelson, Dick Stolz, and Betty Kay Mehlman. Commencement was May 31.

Boyd Nelson was placed in I-A. He went to Columbus On June 4 for his physical examination and passed. He expects to be called for service soon.

NEWS CONTINUED

Capt. Robert Dennis has been home on furlough.

Donald Braun has moved to the Philippines after sixteen months at Guadalcanal.

The Builders Class entertained their husbands with a covered dish supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stoltz.

C. E. and the Missionary Society had a joint meeting at the church Sunday evening June 3 with Miss Josephine Rataiczak as guest speaker.

Announcement of the engagement and approaching marriage of Miss Josephine Rataiczak and James DeBlassis.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESSES:

Pvt. Kenneth K. Braun, 35216432
60 D - 168 - 2nd Bn.
A. P. O. 269 % Postmaster
New York, New York

Pfc. Donald D. Braun, 35602069
232nd Port Co.
A. P. O. 718 % Postmaster
San Francisco, California

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LAUGH AWHILE

In a small school a number of pupils were asked to explain the meaning of "righteous indignation." And Tommy said it was, "Being mad without cussing."

Hunter (to old guide): "Have you ever been lost in the woods?"
Old Guide: "Nope. I never did get lost, but I was bewildered once for four days."

Ethel: "Please, can you tell me the time?"
Willie: "I don't know exactly, but I know it isn't 4 o'clock yet."
"Are you sure?"
"Quite; 'cause I have to be home by 4 o'clock and I'm not home yet."

Youngster: "Father, what's the difference between a rifle and a machine gun?"
Father: "There's a big difference, son. It's as if I spoke and then your mother spoke."

Instructor: "Why do they have knots on the ocean instead of miles?"
Mariner: "To keep the ocean tide."

"So my daughter promised to marry you?"
Suitor: "Yes sir, she did."
Dad: "Well, all I can say is, you asked for it. You've been hanging around this house for months."

Taken from Sam Plumer's LIFE From the Sidelines in the Ohio Farmer:

A Good Place to Sleep
Where can one sleep best? Some people seem to do very well at it when sleeping in church. It is quite common for some folks to take a snooze during a sermon or a dry address. Two men were being introduced and one said, "I guess we ought to know each other; we have slept in the same pew for several years."
An English member of Parliament was once caught yawning in the midst of an important speech. He admitted as much, and said further: "I dreamed once that I was making a speech in Parliament. I woke up, and by Jove, I was."

One day while laying on the green
A little book I seen
An English grammar was the edition
So I left it lay in the same position

Mrs. White: "It makes me so cross--our little boy's name is Reginald, but Henry won't call him anything but Cheap Flannel."
Caller: "How odd! Why?"
Mrs. White: "He says he shrinks from washing."

The question of careers for young people is an important one. There was a man who confessed to his friend that he did not know what to do about his son, who wanted to be a racing motorist. His friend said, "Well, whatever you do, do not stand in his way."