

ing Force Equipment Depot and was stationed there until his release in late October of 1944.

Valdemar J. Johnson entered the service September 15, 1942, and was assigned to the Chemical Warfare Division at Fort Rosecrans, San Diego, California. For the first 6 or 7 months he worked in the office and assisted with the Chemical Warfare training. From Fort Rosecrans he went to Stanford under the ASTP program to study advanced engineering for three months. The next three months were spent at Oregon State College for more advanced engineering study under ASTP. Then he was sent to the University of Michigan for a post-graduate course in Sanitary Engineering for another three months or so. He was then assigned again to Chemical Warfare Division at Camp Sibert, Alabama, after which he went to the Engineer Corps at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri for more training. In July, 1944 he was sent to England and about three months later went to France where he is now stationed. He says, "The climate is almost identical to Oregon's in this part of France, but I miss white-capped Mt. Hood."

Cecil W. Head reports from the 5th Army front in Italy that it is still snowing, raining, blowing, and muddy with occasional "spots" of sunshine sprinkled in. Cec says that some of the country he has seen reminds him of the Alesia River area. He got into Florence on a six-day pass recently and did a lot of sleeping, eating, and shopping. He said it certainly was swell to get into town again. Just before Christmas he went to Rome for a few days (busi-

ness or pleasure?). Cec sent an article from Stars and Stripes home to his brother which reported an earthquake in the area where he is located and he remarked that he, as well as the other men thought it was only artillery fire so went back to sleep. He said, "It woke me up, the building shook, I thought it was artillery fire, and went back to sleep—quite a sensation." Cec has been overseas for almost a year now and has been in North Africa and Italy.

Raymond P. Beard, who joined the Army Air Forces in March, 1944, has been taking his pre-flight training at Gardner Field, California. He expects to get into flight training soon. Ray was at home on a Christmas furlough with his family in Salem, but found time to say hello to his friends in the State Office Building. Smooth landings, Ray!

Lt. John Logan, who left the office of the State Engineer to join the Army, has been in France for several months. Lt. Logan received a part of his education in Switzerland and traveled extensively in Europe before and during Hitler. He writes interesting letters comparing conditions in France now with former times and says that Paris, in spite of the vicissitudes of war, remains the Queen of all cities.

Major Ivan H. Ware, C.A.T.S., ad-

(Continued on page 18)

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