

Camp Adair Sentry

Mounting Guard In and Around Camp Adair, Oregon
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Pro and Con of Women Who Follow After, Instead of Remaining Home

We have a strongly-worded communication from a woman who signs herself "Army Wife" and who takes us to task for the fact that "millions of words have been written telling Army wives to stay home." These words won't, she says, change her heart one danged bit. It is all well and good to say 'stay home,' the lady says, but she indicates that if an Army wife, in order to be with her husband during his training period, is willing to undergo the hardship of poor community accommodations, over-taxed travel conditions, "life in a garret," lousy eating and the countless other items of war-time civilian existence in towns near an Army Post, then they should not be criticized for following their men.

This woman declares that she has but one path to follow: like the Biblical Ruth: "Wheresoe'er thou goest, I will go."

She recites words in one letter from a soldier overseas which says, "When we are out here away from home and homeland, all that we have left are memories." Those last precious weeks, she believes, make the end, whatever it may be, justify all.

Is that true?

The lady, furthermore, says that the wives of American soldiers who remain home keeping up the home front do so simply because they want to do so. A matter of convenience, she says.

To this we take exception. Under ordinary times and conditions, a woman's place is with her husband. Today, however, hundreds of thousands of wives of soldiers are either carrying on as best they can a business left behind or are simply keeping up the homes on the home front; or are working in defense plants at essential jobs; or are conserving the family (and national) resources. They are maintaining a home foundation for the way of life that he will need to have when he comes back. Instead of following him, they are endeavoring to be some sort of a pillar of strength, while waiting his return. They are pursuing a course directed by intelligence, not by heart alone.

We must grant that in this war the problem is different than ever in history. In the last war, most of our divisions were composed of men taken from a specific sector or state, who trained in areas not too far from their own homes. This time the Army policy has been to bring men from every section of the country, to train within one single division. This of course means that a soldier will be in training within U. S. boundaries for a year, or perhaps longer, and yet be two or three thousand miles away from home.

It is natural, then, that in spite of all hell, his wife will want to pick up stakes and follow him. It is natural he would want her to.

But this is still war. It is a war fought to maintain a way of life. It is a war brought to maintain an America—and the American home.

Frankly we have no real complaint against the wife who follows her man. Or against the soldier who asks her to follow him. It is as natural a desire as asking for a seven on the first roll—and just as beautiful when it comes true.

But our deep-down salute is to the soldier and wife who sincerely put the "Yankee solution" first and maintain the "Home Front," American style.

We have given this matter much thought and observation.

We like the spirit of the woman who wires: "Hubby, I'm leaving and will join you, come hell or high water." That's the spirit in the marriage of a man and a woman.

But we bow to the soldier and his wife who realize their love as much, but answer their war-time problem by approaching it with a long range plan of happiness, which is the more likely to be helpful for a soldier and wife—plus Uncle Sam, unquestionably.—B. R.

It's A Great Life By T-5 Lynch Notes From a Soldier's Sketch Book



FACTS ABOUT ALLOTMENTS

(Questions concerning "dependency allowances" have been many so we have prepared a series of articles to help explain the dependency law and all the circumstances it is meant to cover.—Ed. note.)

For purposes of administration and equitable allocation of money, the amended Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act divided dependents into "classes," based largely on the degree of dependency involved.

Class "A" includes the wife and children of a soldier or a divorced wife to whom a soldier is required to pay alimony.

In Class "B" are placed the parents, brothers, and sisters dependent upon him for a SUBSTANTIAL portion of their support.

Class "B-1" embraces the parents, brothers, and sisters of the soldier dependent upon him for CHIEF support.

Allowances can be claimed for either Class "B" or Class "B-1" dependents but may not be paid to both groups.

In the case of a former wife divorced, the family allowance will in no case exceed the amount of the alimony awarded.

In every case \$22 is deducted from the soldier's pay and the Government contributes the remainder, except—

ANSWER BOX

Q: "I was discharged after overseas duty and later I was recalled to the service. Under the provisions of the new Muster-Out law, may I get my discharge pay now or must I wait until after the war?"

A: You've got to wait. Men recalled to active duty are not eligible for muster-out pay until they are again discharged or relieved from active duty.

Q: What's all this "limited service" malarkey? I thought the Army no longer accepted men for limited service.

A: The Army no longer uses the term "limited service" in inducting men. In some cases, however, men who do not meet the standards for combat service may be inducted because of their special skills.

Q: Is it possible for a warrant officer to be "broken" or reduced in rank by a court-martial?

A: No. Although warrant officers are not commissioned officers, they are not enlisted men either and may not be reduced to the ranks, nor to the status of non-commissioned officers.

When the soldier has dependents in Class "A" AND Class "B" or "B-1" his total contribution is increased to \$27.—B.H.

(More Next Week.)

The World This Week

(Continued from Page 1)

Berlin, marking the first time that formations of American aircraft had flown over the capital. Other bombers carried the air war into the heart of Germany in daylight attacks for the third time during the week . . .

In Italy, the Allies threw the Germans back with heavy casualties after penetrating into the Anzio beachhead defenses for nearly a mile. Sharp fighting occurred on the southern front at Cassino—the first reported from this sector in some time. Bad weather hampered operations on the Italian fronts generally—the Allies claimed action was held for the most part to patrol skirmishes. President Roosevelt's disclosure that one-third of the surrendered Italian war fleet in the Mediterranean would be turned over to Russia brought a crisis to Badoglio's cabinet—the Premier threatening resignation . . .

In Russia, the German defense system guarding the Baltic States appeared to be crumbling. Soviet troops broke through the Narva sector inside Estonia, while 100 miles below, other Soviet forces continued to blast their way into Nazi defenses protecting the key base of Pskov, Baltic gateway city. German troops in southern Russia face a potential danger too. In a powerful new offensive, Soviet troops landed within 10 miles of Tarnopol below the Odessa-to-Warsaw line—the capture of which would virtually shut off men and munitions reaching the Nazis in the Ukraine . . .

The surprise American thrust at the enemy in the Admiralties became a full scale invasion as reinforced American troops pushed in from the beachhead on Los Negros Island. The landings there extended the American position within 1300 miles of the Philippines. American bombers in sweeps over the Central Pacific dropped tons of explosives on Ponape and Kusaie Islands. On the Burma front, American veterans from the Solomons and New Guinea, trapped two thousand Japanese in their march through the Burma jungles where a big battle is believed in the making soon.

XCHANGE EXCERPTS

"For two pins, I'd park the car and kiss you," said the wolf.
"Here, take these," the gal replied, "my hair will come undone anyway."

Well, I guess I might as well put the motion before the house, said the chorus girl as she danced out onto the stage.

The husband answered the telephone. "I'm sure I don't know," he said to the person on the other end. "Why don't you call the weather bureau?"

"Who was it?" asked his wife.
"Must have been a sailor, I guess. He wanted to know if the coast is clear."

Officer: Come, come, my man, you mustn't smoke at your work.
Pvt.: Who's working?

Then there was the burlesque dancer who was arrested for no gauze at all.

WAC: "Haven't I always been fair to you?"

GI: "Yes, but I want you to be fair and warmer."

He: "Let's create a disturbance."
She: "You'll have to marry me first."

The driest conversation strangely enough comes from people who are all wet.

A sweet young gal from post hqs. had broken her glasses. She took the remains to the optometrist at PX No. 1.

"Will I have to be examined all over?"
"No," he replied, "just your eyes."

The most popular shades this season will be the ones that are left up in the gal's bedroom window.

Army Doc: "Your leg is swollen, but I wouldn't worry about it."

Pvt.: "If your leg was swollen, I wouldn't worry about it, either."

Pvt.: "How come you and Margy sat out the last dance at the Field House last night, chum?"
Cpl.: "Oh, petty reasons."

Sgt.: "Whose bright idea was it to put those flowers on the mess table?"

Pvt.: "The colonel's."
Sgt.: "Pretty, aren't they?"

WE SHIP TONIGHT

So cling to me with your lips, let me cling

To yours, in desperation. We are lost,

Like hands upraised from the deep, imploring;

Our love, new-found, surrendered at such cost,

The Spring's first crocus crushed beneath the frost;

Your fingers, curled around my arm, tightening,

Weep. Your eyes, however, bright and dry, accost

Me, strangely glazed, and strangely frightening.

Let us cling fast for one more kiss and then

Speak words whimpering of farewell to this

Brief interlude; words are nothing now, when

Without them, we can blot out joyful bliss.

Cling to me with your lips, murmur farewell;

Close by, I hear the tolling of a bell.

—Tec4 Robert S. Torcasio
Post Finance Office.