THE WEATHER: In the daytime the mercury hits the nineties regularly. But once Old Sol slides down below the horizon, everything's jake. And many a Montgomerian has gone a-hunting for a blanket on these recent nights. We've had a few rough thunder-and-lightning displays, but mighty few.

Here's Your Letter From Home

SENT TO YOU WITH THE BEST WISHES OF

Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
Grimes Motor Co.
J. W. Wells Lumber Co.
John Danziger, Inc.
Fannin's
Radio Station WSFA
Brown Printing Co.
Young Ice Cream Co.
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SPONSORS OF THE "LETTER FROM HOME" PROGRAM

HEARD THESE? A woman is usually responsible for a man's success because of the money she makes it necessary for him to make!! . . . A bachelor is a man who never makes the same mistake once!! . . . Wonder if a fish ever goes home and lies about the size of the bait he stole???

NO. 45 | LETTERS LEAVE MONTGOMERY EVERY FRIDAY | JUNE 9, 1944

DEAR GANG: You're probably wondering: "What was it like at home on D-Day?" ... Well, like everywhere else in the world, we guess, Montgomerians were steeped in reserved excitement, wanting to shout out "we're pulling for you, gang!" ... but realizing there was an ocean in between ... Everyone was literally burning with pride as the news flashed in throughout the day .. Radios were never turned off during the first 24 hours and there was one topic of conversation ... and one only ... All stores closed at 5 p. m. and at that same hour two-score buglers, stationed throughout the city, went into action ... All traffic stopped and a period of silent prayer was observed ... At 8 p. m. prayer services were held in every Montgomery church ... Almost without exception, every pew was filled ... WSFA cancelled all commercial programs and announcements, for more than 30 hours broadcast only invasion news or specially prepared programs in honor of the courageous men who sailed or flew across the Channel ... When prayers were being said over the air it was not uncommon to see a sidewalk group, including some perhaps who were praying for the first time, lift their hats and stand reverently until the prayer was done ... At 9 p. m. the whole town—along with the remainder of the nation—listened with bowed heads as President Roosevelt offered his Invasion Day Prayer ... As the full moon, riding in a partially cloudy sky, shone down in the later hours, Montgomerians finally closed their eyes ... proud ... appreciative ... and confident of the eventual outcome.

* * * *

AROUND THE TOWN: George O. Miller, 53, speaker of the state House of Representatives, died Wednesday after a brief illness following a cerebral hemorrhage ... He represented Sumter County, had practiced law in Livingston for years, and had served four terms in the legislature ... Only last month he was elected delegate-at-large to the national Democratic convention ... Prattville, Wetumpka, Greenville and many other nearby towns observed D-Day as did we in Montgomery ... Plans are under way for a memorial to Dr. George Blue, celebrated surgeon and one of our city's best beloved men ... The athletic committee of the University of Alabama decided against resuming athletic relations with Auburn ... A number of reasons for the decision were advanced, chief of which was the fear of over-emphasis of the competition in athletics ... The action of the committee was a disappointment to many alumni and friends of both schools ... And it looks like another try at solution of the old question has practically died a-borning ... Auburn had quickly agreed to resumption of relations when the suggestion was put forth by Governor Sparks several months ago ... When the Fifth War Loan opens Monday, Montgomerians will be found ready ... Judge Eugene Carter and his army of loyal, faithful workers have been laying ground work for weeks ... The new 1945 auto license tags will be the reverse of the present ones ... The '45 color scheme will be black background and yellow numerals ... The new (annual) federal windshield sticker ... which retails at five bucks ... is now on sale and must be applied before July 1 ... Allyn Thames is back on his feet after a serious operation ... Claud Moody is the new civic club golf champion ... A stream-lined state golf tournament is scheduled here for July with all entrance fees going to war bonds ... Cadet Larry Harleston, a Charleston boy, won't ever forget his first basic training solo flight at Gunter ... As he came in to land the operations tower noticed one of the plane's landing wheels was missing ... By radio Harleston was ordered to stay in the air ... Then, after a quick conference, Col. Raymond Winn, commandant, sent up the director of flight training to fly alongside the solo-ing cadet and instruct him in bailing out and where to bail out, which direction to aim his disabled plane, etc. ... Following instructions to the letter, after a couple of trial runs over an auxiliary field, Harleston sailed serenely to earth on his silk, hustled back to Gunter field and, after reporting, asked if there was any objection to him hurrying to the mess hall before it closed ... W. Foster Hayes has been elected commander of Legion Post No. 2, succeeding Bob Shields ... Quite a few World War II veterans have been added to the Legion rolls ... Lew Bostick, captain of the 1938 Crimson Tide, has been signed as Alabama's line coach ... Rudolph Ohme is the new president of the state federation of postal employees ... Permits for 8 new residences and one four-unit apartment were issued in May ... A tremendous military parade will notify Montgomerians of the start of the Fifth War Loan next Monday ... Dr. E. A. Childs, of the Dexter Avenue Methodist, was named president of the city's ministerial association ... The Auburn Club, composed of A. P. I. alumni and friends, holds regular weekly luncheon meetings at the Whitley ... Lt. A. M. Murray, co-pilot of a Liberator, is missing over Germany ... His wife is the former Joyce Park, 103 So. Panama St. ... Although school is out, Montgomery kids collected, baled, and delivered two full tons of waste paper last week ... S2C Chas. B. McLain was known to have been aboard the baby flat-top, USS Block Island, sunk in the Atlantic last month ... He is believed to be safe.

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SAYING "HELLO" TO THE HOMEFOLKS: Lt. John Britton ... Capt. Edw. E. Cobbs ... Col. J. Warren Andrews ... Lt. Chas. H. Craig ... Ralph Loeb, Jr., Electrician Mate 3/c ... Geo. R. Sanford, P-O 3/c ... T/Sgt. Geo. A. Pylant ... Lt. Paul Saffold ... Lt. Bobby Hails ... Maj. Jos. A. Voreck ... Sgt. Joseph Mansfield ... Capt. Paul Mertins, Jr. ... Lt. Richard Gassenheimer ... Maj. Broughton McCord ... Sgt. Howard Purdy ... Lt. John Flowers, Jr. ... Lt. Col. John Lyle ... S/Sgt. Wm. Stanaland ... Ensign Hamilton Hutchinson ... Robert Gunn ... Jack Kilpatrick ... Joe Jones ... Ernest Ray McKibben, Jr. ... Capt. R. Sam Mosley ... Corp. James W. Bell ... Walter Beahn ... Capt. Pat Eagan ... P-O 1/c Jos. D. Gibbons ... Edw. E. Morris ... Comdr. Wm. S. Carson ... T-Sgt. Maurice Gantt ... Lt. Col. W. F. Casthelow ... S 2/c Arnold Miller ... S/Sgt. Ralph G. Pierce ... Louis Watts ... P-O Jack Whittle ... Ensign Jimmie A. Dowdy.

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WEDDING BELLS FOR: Jason R. McGee, Jr. and Jerry Wilson ... Lt. Patterson Colin Campbell and Caroline Ray ... Oscar Tolman Nelson and Sarah Bernadette Robins ... Lt. Lynn R. Wills and Marie E. Davies ... Sgt. Herman Klemberg and Alice Varon ... Martin Howard Bowman and Jeanne Teresa Mangum ... Capt. Robt. M. Mitchell and Eldridge Mae Stein ... Lt. Robt. Lynne Manning and Betty Harris Roberts ... Lt. (jg) Jas. T. Durden and Rosalie Eiring ... Geo. Arthur Sullivan and Mary Charles Calhoun ... Jno. B. Benson, Jr. and Elinor Muir ... Capt. Harold Zyskind and Mascha Lehrer ... Lt. Bernard I. Hall and Carrie Belle Persons.

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THREE WEEKS AGO we reported that Joe Maloy, Jr., gunner in a bomber, was missing over Europe ... A few days ago word came that Joe is safe, although a prisoner ... And there was real rejoicing by the whole "Letter From Home" crew here at home because it is Joe, Jr.'s dad who tenderly watches over the printing of this letter each week in the press room up at Brown Printing Company ... Alabama's police radio network is credited with recovering 45 stolen cars, valued at $50,000, in May ... June 18 is Father's Day, so don't forget to drop a line to the finest guy in the world ... Comparative list of grocery items with May 1943 and May 1944 prices shows that increases are few—and small ones—with many decreases ... Eggs were 40c a year ago, 40c now ... Fryers 44c and 45c ... Tomatoes 25c and 22c ... Lettuce 13c and 12c ... 5 lbs. sugar, 31c and 32c ... Grade A bacon, 41c and 39c ... Large can tomato juice, 23c and 23c ... Not so with used cars, however ... A want ad today offers a 1940 Ford for $895 ... Lt. Bob Harris has been awarded the Air Medal for "meritorious conduct" in the far eastern theater ... At an all-day meeting of farmers, cattlemen, and sprinkling of city slickers, on Nolen Huddleston's farm near Pike Road, Dean Funchess of Auburn predicted cattle sales at Montgomery's stockyards eventually would reach $50,000,000 ... Sales last year were almost ten million ... Lt. Harold Pittman and Sgt. James Judson Pittman, Auburn brothers, were reported missing over Europe on the same day ... They had only recently met in London ... City Lines gets 5 new busses ... Painted gray instead of the pre-war yellow ... The power company, to save man hours, will read electric meters only every other month ... Swell tribute to Montgomery doctors in service was published in local papers by Price Drug Company ... Employers here-

(Over)

abouts are urged to let employees who are state guard members attend guard's annual encampment without pay deduction for time missed ... Joe Petrick, who used to do some pretty neat hurling for the Rebels, is now with the Birmingham club ... Sgt. Dovard H. Hall now has an oak leaf cluster to go along with his Air Medal ... Lt. Francis R. Lawson, of Mathews Station, who flies a P-38, has knocked down two German planes ... John R. Armstrong has been elevated to the presidency of the Civitan Club ... Deputy Sheriff "Doc" Johnson had to chase an escaped prisoner from the county jail to Dexter and Perry before he caught up ... It was back to the clink for the dark-complexioned escapee ... Tommy McDuff, top-flight lightweight boxer in these parts 20 years ago and brother of Joe McDuff, died this week ... Former governor Frank Dixon is again serving as state chairman of the American Legion's war bond organization ... Duplicating the action of the major leagues, all sports events in Montgomery—a boxing card and several softball and baseball games—were cancelled on D-Day ... Among those "mentioned"—in the papers and on the sidewalks—as possible gubernatorial candidates in 1946 are: Lt. Gov. Handy Ellis, Public Service Commissioner Gordon Persons, 1942 Runner-up Jim Folsom, Mayor Lucien Burns of Selma, Congressman Frank Boykin, 1946 Lt. Gov. Runner-up John Inzer, and Former Lt.-Gov. Albert Carmichael, now overseas ... A late development on the Auburn-Alabama athletic situation is that a group of Alabama lumni are going to press University officials for re-consideration of their recent vote nixing resumption of relations.

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THE STORK BROUGHT: To Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Lewis, a daughter ... Lt. and Mrs. Robert L. McConnell (Marta Tucker), a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. J. Randolph Penton, Jr. (Jean Ann Evans), a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Ridenour (Audrey Dillard), a daughter ... Lt. and Mrs. Joseph E. Graham (Ruth Rice), a son ... Sgt. and Mrs. Wm. H. Lamkin, a son ... S/Sgt. and Mrs. Carl T. Brown (Helen McKinney), a daughter ... Capt. and Mrs. Henry C. Collins, a son ... T-Sgt. and Mrs. Prentiss S. Dickey (Jean Reyolds), a daughter ... Sgt. and Mrs. Joseph Fleischman (Esther Schulwolf), a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Pruett, a son ... Mr. and Mrs. James A. Newton, a son ... Maj. and Mrs. R. W. Lavin (Jeanetta Turner), a son ... Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Baker, a son ... Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Thornton, a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. Lomax Thompson, a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Whidden, a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. Marvin B. Johnson (Ocy Dee Anderson), a son ... Mr. and Mrs. Thos. J. Clark, a daughter.

QUOTES

J. J. JONES, A. R. M. 2/c (F. P. O., San Francisco)—"There are quite a few Montgomery boys out here. After our last cruise I saw J. P. Kaligas, Leonard Short, Ed Westbrook, and best of all, my brother, Roy L. Jones." !

CPL. JACK M. HANCOCK (Hawaiian Islands)—"After spending many months in the Gilbert Islands, I have really learned to appreciate what the Hawaiian Islands offer. Returning here was almost like my first furlough."

SGT. VICTOR F. GRISWOLD (Italy)—"The Red Cross gives dances for us. We have an all G. I. orchestra and they are exceptionally good. We have Italian girls to dance with, and some have learned to jitter-bug."

AVERY DICKEY, S 1/c (F. P. O., San Francisco)—"In my 10 months in the Seabee's I have put five months overseas without wine, women or song, which makes all of us here a bunch of Sad Sacks."

PVT. FELIX W. SHANK (Camp Blanding, Fla.)—"Our outfit is just about half finished with basic, and I must say I'm a much better man than I thought—so far I've taken everything in the book and am still going."

LT. RICHARD C. COBBS, U. S. N. R. (New York City)—"I am staying with James Dillard, another Montgomerian. After 18 months in the Canal Zone, New York is a welcome change."

PAUL L. ANDREWS, COMDR., U. S. N. R. (F. P. O., San Francisco)—"I was recently detailed as officer in charge of the battalion and have plenty of worries now as O. in C. of the Regiment."

PFC. CLAY STOWERS (New Guinea)—"The prettiest things over here are butterflies and birds, all colors. Often butterflies measure from tip of wing, about nine inches, also lizards about two and a half feet long."

EDWARD E. CULVER, F. 1/c (N. Y. C.)—"I just finished a course in basic engineering and now am to go to turbine school for a month."

* * * *

THIS WEEK, Pfc. Richard L. Tidwell, home on leave from California dropped by to see us, and left us a grand picture of himself and "Corporal Topper", a peach of an English bull dog, who is official mascot of the Marine Corps.

Others heard from are:

Pfc. Billy B. Crew, Camp Barkeley, Texas ... Lt. Laura Strickland, Columbus, Ohio ... Capt. Joseph C. Brown, Flora, Miss. ... Pvt. Robert Hodges, Camp Rucker, Ala. ... Pvt. Jack Brassell, Keesler Field, Miss. ... Pvt. David R. Hamilton, Ft. Lewis, Wash. ... Pvt. J. B. Shaw, Jr., Oceanside, Cal. ... S/Sgt. John Rudder, Camp Planche, La. ... Pvt. James F. Lynn, Ft. Myers, Fla. ... Sgt. J. C. Grant, Seymour Johnson Field, N. C. ... Sgt. Fred Little, Malden, Mo. ... Pvt. Lee G. Letwinger, Greensboro, N. C. ... Cpl. Forrest F. Butts, Santa Ana, Cal. ... Sammie E. Schofield, S 1/c, Milton, Fla. ... A/S Richard W. Compton, Greenville, Miss. ... A/C Glenville D. Cook, Jr., Coral Gables, Fla. ... Pfc. James E. Jackson, Camp Barkeley, Texas ... Pvt. J. C. Faust, Camp Blanding, Fla. ... 1/Sgt. Morris S. Marcus, Hunter Field, Ga. ... Cpl. A. E. Garrett, Fresno, Cal. ... A/S. James T. Ellison, La Junta, Colo. ... Lt. Robert M. Page, Drew Field, Fla. ... Howard M. Brasseale, Medical Discharge from Service ... S/Sgt. J. Max Weatherly, Big Springs, Texas ... Edward E. Culver, F 1/c, New York City.

Address c/o F. P. O., San Francisco: Percy I. Van. G. M. 1/c ... William H. Elmore, Jr. ... Thomas Chestnutt, Rd. M. 2/c ... E. E. Ming, S. F. 2/c ... H. J. McGehee, Sp. (M) ... Eugene Carmichael, C. M. 2/c ... C. E. McCord, A. O. M. 1/c ... Percy E. Johnson, S. 1/c.

Hawaiian Islands: Cpl. Jack M. Hancock ... T/Sgt. James D. Hicks.

New Guinea: Pfc. Clay Stowers and Pfc. Lawrence Hanks.

New Caledonia: T/Sgt. Colonel L. Cook.

C/O Postmaster, Seattle, Wash.: S/Sgt. R. E. McLendon.

C/O P. M., New Orleans, La.: Ralph Wilson Brown.

C/O Fleet P. O., New York: John R. Knight, A. R. M. 3/c.

C/O P. M., New York: Pvt. Frank Fleming.

ENGLAND: These boys were too busy to write!

In Iceland: W/O. R. L. Boyd.

In Italy: Pfc. A. S. McMath ... Capt. E. H. Rogers ... Pfc. Julius H. Trotter ... Sgt. Victor F. Griswold.

From Egypt: Pfc. Robert Duffin.

From India: Lt. W. S. Johnson, Jr.

Iran: T/Sgt. Jack S. Cook.

Thanks again for your letters, Gang ... We've a hunch you're all mighty busy just now, but if you can find the time, drop us a line ... And thanks many million times, for the swell jobs you're all doing in such a fine way ... Keep it up, and hurry home! So long, and the very best o' luck to you-all.

YOUR GANG AT HOME.

Good Cheer From Montgomery Churches

A bright little chap held up his hand when the teacher asked who could name the four freedoms. His reply was, "Freedom from want, Freedom from fear, Freedom from Religion, and Freedom from speeches."

Our freedoms are not just **from** something but **of** something.

Freedom of Religion is not neutral. Whenever our spirits are exposed to the Spirit of their Creator and Our Father, then something happens in our lives which identifies us with God. We become holy. Our personalities and bodies become sacred and temples of the Holy Spirit. Something happens in you and to you when every day you spend a few moments in silent meditation and conscious communion with God. Will you make a resolution to do that? Let's begin by really praying these words:

Our Father, we thank Thee for the privilege to worship Thee and give expression to our love by speech and christian actions. Help us to make this privilege not only a possibility but an actuality in our lives. For we ask it in the name of Thy Son in whose life we find perfect freedom and love. Amen.

Dan C. Whitsett, Pastor,
St. Mark's Methodist Church.

(Over)

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