

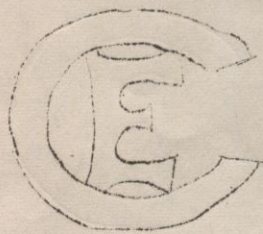
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Trinity Flash Newsletter, February 1944

Genevieve Mouw

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TRINITY FLASH

Fifth Edition, February 1944

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Thelma Elenbaas, Typist

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"God never closes one door without opening another"

January 30 to February 6 is known as Interdenominational Youth Week. We usually think of it as C. E. Week.

We believe that an emphasis on the high ideals of C. E. would be helpful in building morale on the home front and make youth spiritually fit for the task that lies ahead.

Accordingly, the Trinity C. E. Society acted as host to a Sioux County Youth Rally. Dr. Raymond Drukker of Annville, Kentucky was secured as the guest speaker. As you know, Dr. Drukker is the Director of the Reformed Church Mission work in Jackson County. The church is carrying on a unified program and is reaping the results of years of labor. The Northwestern Junior College Girls Chorus furnished several splendid musical numbers under the able direction of Miss Fern Smith. The meeting began with a song service led by Rev. R. J. Ongna. Harriet Muyskens played the piano and Mrs. Wm. Langstraat (nee Alberta Slothouber) played the pipe organ. Our C. E. President, Eugene Van Wyk, led in devotions and acted as chairman of the meeting. A gist of Dr. Drukker's message follows:

Dr. Drukker in speaking to the youth proved that you can't do mission work without education and taking care of the physical needs. The mountaineers have been acquainted with the Bible and classical literature. Therefore their speech is filled with quaint sayings and phrases, although their usage sounds queer to us, they are literal translations of the same. If they were to say that a watch was strict, they would mean it was excellent. The word was used in this sense by Chaucer. The Kentuckian uses this meaning in his everyday speech. The natives use the word respect. They mean that you take a person at face value. This usage has a Biblical background. Dr. Drukker also flavored his address with some humor. A bit of spice was introduced when he related an Arab proverb as told by Dr. Paul Harrison, "God gave to man 10 parts of speech, a woman has nine".

Feb. '44

All the C. E. Societies in Sioux County were invited. We estimate that over 300 young people attended the Rally. After the meeting a light lunch was served. Dr. Drukker led in a Quiet Hour with choruses and prayers.

We have requested Mrs. Mary Kraai to write a letter to the Servicemen. She is not only a mother of a Serviceman, Lt. Nelson Kraai, but she is also a grandmother of a Serviceman, Cpl. Dale Kraai.

Orange City, Iowa
Jan. 27, 1944

To All the Servicemen from Trinity Church, wherever you are:

I was asked to write to you but it is not easy for an old Grandma to write to such a large family of men and boys. Just remember we are thinking and praying for you every day, and hope soon to see the day that Peace may come that you men and boys can come home to your loved ones again.

Sometimes we wonder what this New Year will have in store for us. One thing we are certain of that God watches over his people wherever and in what circumstances they may be. We are so glad to hear your letters read in the Sunday School from time to time. May God protect you all.

Sincerely your Friend,
Mrs. Mary Kraai

There is no one who feels for the soldier as the ex-service man. We are happy to print a letter from Henry Muyskens, Mr. Muyskens is a farmer near Orange City and a deacon of our church.

Dear Men in the Service:

As an ex-service man I was asked by the Christian Endeavor to write this letter to you. The many prayers offered in your behalf, our service flag, all constantly remind us of the many sacrifices being made.

Our thoughts go out to the men in the service. We are proud of our men, who give of their time and their talents unselfishly to their country. It is an honor and a privilege to serve a country such as America, and as you are scattered to the four corners of the earth, we realize that this war is being felt in almost every nation, and that you are fighting for the freedom of the world. It may seem that the forces of unrighteousness are stronger, but we know God rules over all. It brings to mind a poem I once read, That it is not alone through money, men and ships, but God will win the day.

We know from experience that you will be discouraged and lonely at times. The Psalm that has been a help to many of us is the 121st Psalm. The Psalm reads, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made Heaven and Earth."

Amidst all this tumult a Christian has a source of strength and comfort to give him new courage.

I have read a prayer by Dr. Albert G. Butzer which is fitting for these times--"Our Father, as we look out upon a world in which all things seem to be shaken, We thank Thee for the assurances which come to us from the past. We praise Thee that truth crushed to

Feb. '48

earth has always risen again; and that in the long last, ruthless might has always been self-defeating and self-destructive--and that though love has been crucified, dead and buried by hate, always it has come to life again. And so, we thank Thee for the lift of a long look back, and the lift of a long look ahead."

It is my prayer that God may protect and keep you, that when all of you fighting men return having won your battle, you may not be disappointed in us--that your homes and churches have carried on their work faithfully, always anticipating your return.

May the Lord hasten the day when peace shall again prevail. As we have come to the close of the day, it is as if I can hear the "Top Kick" say, "Fall out". I must close because the command is "lights out". Good night.

Henry D. Muyskens.

NEWS ITEMS

Mr. Gerrit Fikse died on January 13th at the age of 78 years. At the funeral service, Rev. Ongna spoke on the text in Revelation 14:13. "And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

The Girls' League has taken upon themselves the responsibility of obtaining pictures of every serviceman and placing them in church.

The new officers elected in the Sunday School for this year are: Sup't., Mr. Hubert Mullenburg; Ass't. Sup't., Milton Van Roekel; Sec'y, Stanley Duven, Treas., Donald Kraai; Ass't. Sec'y-Treas., Frances Elenbaas.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT OUR SERVICEMEN

Lt. Ralph Mouw is now living in an old English Manor somewhere in England.

Word has not been received for sometime from Pvt. Al Heemstra. His whereabouts and destination are unknown.

Pvt. Ray Wierda is receiving his basic training with the infantry at Camp Fannin, Texas.

Pvt. Gerard Mulder, who is having basic engineers training, is stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The Beyer family has had no further word concerning Cpl. Glenn. Pfc. Kenneth Beyer is now stationed in New Caledonia. He is working in the Intelligence Section.

The Ranger Battalion, of which T/4 Robert Malisch is a part, has been reported to be engaging in a hand to hand battle in Italy.

Cpl. Phil Mouw has been accepted for Air Cadet Training. At present he is stationed at Buckley Field, Colorado.

The Lubbers brothers have not been transferred for some time. S/Sgt. Willard Lubbers is somewhere in the Aleutian Islands. Pfc. Roy Lubbers is still stationed at the Fiji Islands.

Feb '44

Sgt. James Mulder, a tail-gunner, has been transferred from Rapid City, S. D. to Langley Field, Virginia.

Lt. Nelson Kraai has been promoted from Lt. (j.g.) to Lt.

Sgt. Lawrence Van Wyk became a proud daddy of a 6³/₄ lb. baby girl. He is still stationed at Ft. Bliss, Texas, while Mrs. Van Wyk is with her parents at Langford, S. D. The child has been named Marilyn Kay.

A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR, REV. R. J. ONGNA

Dear Servicemen:

Another month has passed since I last wrote you in "Trinity Flash". I am happy that our young people are cooperating so well in this effort. We all need each other and it helps so much to know that there are places on this earth where love rules and there is a common allegiance to the King of Kings.

While the forces of greed, hate, and selfishness are doing their utmost to conquer this world, it is good to know that there is One that never strays from His purpose to save mankind from sin and its resulting evils. The Christ still goes before and calls men in pleading tones, "Follow Me". In so far as we take up the challenge and follow Him wherever He leads may we expect to gain great personal victories. In all of the struggle we have this great assurance given to us by His promise, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world". Matthew 28:20. With that challenge to follow and the assurance of His presence we may face the future with courage.

Now I am ready to leave for the day's program of "Family Visitation." My schedule for today covers eight families. Five of them are the homes of Servicemen. We hope to be and receive a blessing as we sit down together for an hour of fellowship, prayer, and meditation of God's Word.

Your friend and Pastor,
R. J. Ongna

YOUR PLACE

Just where you stand in the conflict,
There is your place;
Just where you think you are useless,
Hide not your face.
God placed you there for a purpose,
Whate'er it may be,
Think He has chosen you for it,
And work loyally.

--Anon.