



MISSOURI MISSION MESSENGER



VOLUME V.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, DECEMBER, 1944

NUMBER 12

ABOARD A PACIFIC CRASH BOAT

Dear Carl: This small "crash boat" on which I am stationed doesn't seem to want to behave itself, so if you can't read this, it will not be altogether my fault. I received your letter a few days ago, and it was a pleasant surprise. I realize how busy you are and your letter was greatly appreciated, as well as your thoughtfulness of me.

Little did I realize that soon after the Kansas City Mass Meeting I would be working for Uncle Sam. I joined the Navy, Dec. 14, 1942 and started my training in San Diego. After "boot camp" I went to school for a short period in the Hospital Corps School, which I found to be interesting, though not the type of work I expressed as my preference. I was a little disgusted at first but now I like it real well.

When I received my Hospital Corpsman diploma I went to work at San Diego Naval Hospital, some of it was not pleasant as you come

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The Service Tie Wants

- Names and addresses of every member of the faithful Churches of Christ in the service, or ones who are well acquainted with the church through their families.
- New addresses of all whose addresses have been changed since they were last sent.

The Service Tie is a monthly paper dedicated to "keeping Christian service men and women in touch with each other and the Church of Christ". It goes free to all names on the list. With each copy is also inserted a piece or two of some pure gospel literature. In addition, each received copies of sermons on the Kansas City Broadcast. Each congregation should select one person to collect its names and keep me informed constantly as to their up-to-date addresses. Act now for the boys who sacrifice for you! ARTHUR FREEMAN, Box 525, Chillicothe, Missouri.

SHORT SESSION BIBLE READING

Bible Reading Short Session

Five states contributed 68 persons to attend the daily session of Bible Study in the Hebrew letter at the Manchester Avenue Church, St. Louis. The analytical form of investigation, employing visual educational methods was introduced to many of these church leaders, elders and preachers for the first time. All were enthusiastic in their expressions of commendation for this form of study, which simplifies and amplifies the study. Sessions were daily from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., followed with a forum panel discussion of church problems lasting an hour. Services at night were held at Manchester and Lillian Avenue, and presented a number of brethren as speakers in discussion of edification and needs of the churches. The ladies of the St. Louis churches served lunch to all who were in attendance on Thursday.

The regular six weeks of study of the Old Testament will start on January 1, 1945 at 9 a.m., and reservations for rooms should be made at once by writing ROBERT MORROW, 7117 Manchester Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

NUGGETS OF GOLD

A new tract entitled "1000 Nuggets of Gold" has been printed by Bro. D. Austen Sommer. It is a folder done in gold and black, and contains a thousand passages for memorization. Perhaps no one could select a better group of Biblical passages for the purpose intended, and this little folder should be in each person's Bible. Memorize a passage daily. Make your motto. "A passage a day keeps Satan away," and fortify your life with the Holy Writ of the Lord. Write Brother Sommer for particulars. Start a Bible Study in your own community looking to this for a guide in memorization work.

The risen life is the best testimony to a risen Christ.

NORTH MISSOURI EXCHANGE PROGRAM

We have been furnished with a copy of the exchange of talent program which was worked out by certain north Missouri congregations and which will assist greatly in development of talent as well as keeping interest alive in all participating points. The churches involved are Unionville, Worthington, Martinstown, East Concord, Kirksville, Holliday, Bethel, and Lemons. Representatives of all these places met in Unionville and formulated the program which will continue until May 6, 1945. The next plan meeting will be held on May 13, 1945. The plan calls for a speaker and singer from one of the other churches to visit each place twice per month, thus developing song leading ability as well as speaking talent. This is the second program drawn up, a former outline having proven successful for a shorter length of time. We are earnestly hoping that this may prove to be the solution to many of the development problems with which we are faced today.

READ THIS AND ACT!

The church at Topeka, Kansas after struggling along with inadequate arrangements for years has at last been able to purchase a church building, for a reasonable amount. It requires some repair work, and the congregation needs consistent aid in the form of training. They have asked Wilford Landes to work with them through 1945, at least a portion of his time. But the building should be put in shape first. They are worthy! They need your aid. A contribution of ten dollars, twenty-five dollars or more would do wonders in spurring them onward. Lend a helping hand. Send a check at once to this brave little group who have given more than a thousand dollars out of their own pockets within the past few weeks. Send all contributions to Brother E. R. Noel, 2619 Ohio, Topeka, Kansas.

FROM THE MUD OF FRANCE

Dear Carl: Here I am again hoping very sincerely that all is going well with all those in Saint Louis who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in truth and verity. I am well with much to be thankful for.

Carl, I have recently met an M. P. who is a Baptist, and who lives the Christian life as he sees it. He is very devoted to the Lord, but not according to knowledge. George is a very good example to many who call themselves Christians today. He believes in purity of life as we teach. We have some very lively discussions at times. He cannot understand (as he depends on his pastor) why we cannot compromise and live the Christian life as he feels in his heart. Of course, you know his position. I replied to him that we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

George agrees that he doesn't know a thing about God's Word, so I told him that rather than take advantage of him we would study together. To this he agreed. We study some in the Old and some in the New Testament. It certainly is a help to be able to rehearse those things in the midst of this turmoil and strife, and my buddy seems very interested.

I do not know who wrote that article "Can God Bless America?" but judging from the logic and wording it must have been you.

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Weems To California

Bernell Weems, of the Manchester Ave. Church, Saint Louis will go to the west coast area for work in the vicinity of Oakland, California assisting Brother Robinson and the church there, starting the middle of February. He plans to attend the winter session of the Saint Louis Study after completing work in the Blackwater—Lamine vicinity of central Missouri. Another Manchester Avenue member, Kenneth Morgan, will also work on the west coast again this coming year.

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W. Carl Ketcherside

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Dedicated to the task of equipping churches in this state and elsewhere to a greater zeal in mission work, and assist in developing the talents of all to be used to the glory of God.

Elders Should Teach

Bro. E. M. Zerr's book of questions on the New Testament can be of much help to elders and teachers as well as all other students of the Bible in the Church of Christ. There is much difference between leading workers of God's church and "bee" workers. In a hive of bees the workers are the female bees that gather the sweet nectar from the flowers for themselves, the queen and the males (drones). In the church all members should be workers, but the elders are to gather information and instructions from the Word of God (Bible) to impart spiritual food to members of the Body. They cannot leave their work of teaching to the women of the congregation, and in truth, be overseers and feeders of the flock. A congregation is no stronger than the teaching and influence of the overseers. Even those outside know that the elders are to instruct the church in righteousness and not leave most of the feeding to others. Certainly others should help, but God's plan is for the elders to do much of the teaching in each congregation. —LILLIAN DIX.

Zerr Booked For 1945

Bro. E. M. Zerr of New Castle, Indiana has booked his time solid for 1945, and two months of 1946 in Bible Study work. The first five months will be in California, after which in succession he will be at New Castle, and Anderson, Indiana; Excelsior Springs, Mo.; Bloomington, Martinsville, Oakland City and Vincennes, Indiana. This is to us a good indication of the fact that churches are arousing to a need of Bible Study and preparation for greater service to Christ.

AMONG the CHURCHES

SAINT JOSEPH—Services have been well attended during November. The soldiers at Rosecrans Field here, continue to avail themselves of the privilege to worship, most of those attending being from the south, with Texas and Oklahoma being best represented.

Sister Alma Terry is recovering from a very severe operation as we write. Sister Ella Goucher of Savannah, Mo., is also convalescing after an operation. Sister Carr and children are enjoying a vacation on the west coast where they are visiting their husband and father S 2-C Henry Carr.

Sister Strong came forth on a recent Lord's Day and confessed her neglect of duty, and placed membership with the church here.

Bro. L. C. Roberts expects to be with us on Dec. 2 and 3. He will preach on Saturday night, and at both services Lord's Day. We are enjoying Bro. Hensley's broadcast from WREN very much. May the Lord bless him in this great effort. —CLEO GIBSON.

HOLIDAY—Our meeting at this place (near Green City), with Bro. Otis Crandell of Salem is now history. The visible results are 3 fine young men baptized into Christ. They are not afraid to show their colors either, as on the Sunday following their immersion one read the opening lesson, and another passed the emblems. To God be all praise. —C. I. WAGONER.

KANSAS CITY (26th. and Spruce)—Our two weeks meeting with Bro. Bill Hensley ended Nov. 26. Attendance was especially good at the all day services held each Lord's Day. We had a basket dinner the first two Sundays. Three were added during the meeting; 2 by primary obedience, one by membership.

Bro. Hensley preached without fear or favor, pointing out the duty of each of us as Christians. He certainly did his part and now all of us should work more wholeheartedly for Christ, doing as the Book says, "Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine, continue in them; for in so doing, thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee."

Sister Hensley joined her husband for a ten day stay during the meeting and after the evening services on the 21st, about 65 of the members gathered at the home of Bro. and Sister Hyatt, to surprise the Hensleys. All had a good time.

Bro. Roy Harris was with us

one Wednesday evening and gave us a very edifying lesson from God's truths. Come again, Brother Harris!

A farewell party was had at the home of Bro. and Sister Tegtmeyer on Nov. 2, honoring their son Winston, who has been in the services for quite sometime, but is leaving for the west coast. He is a fine Christian boy and our well wishes go with him.

We remind everyone to listen to the Church of Christ program on WREN, Lawrence, Kansas, each Lord's Day at 1 p. m. Bro. Hensley is giving us some wonderful lessons and the programs are grand. —EDITH GUNN.

WEST CONCORD (delayed) Our efforts at West Concord culminated Oct. 29. We were favored with ideal weather, and crowds were good and interest high. Five were added to the church roster. One of the outstanding facts was the cooperation and willingness to assist me in outlining a systematic program for their Lord's Day worship. Let's strive for more order, and system in the work of the Lord. Began at Milan October 30, for three weeks. —WINFORD LEE.

GALLATIN—Through kindness of the nearby Splawn's Ridge congregation, we are enjoying the use of a number of extra chairs not needed by them at this time. A gospel "SINGSPIRATION" was held one evening while Bro. Hubert Long was home on furlough. He also met with us one Lord's Day. Our regular development program continues at every meeting. Bro. James Truitt speaks for us on the third Sunday; Bro. Harold Hays on the first. A number of outside people are listening to the WREN broadcast (a wonderful radio service) at 1 p. m. each Sunday. We advertise it weekly in the local paper and use the printed sermons as tracts to distribute. The field here is wide and we must day by day be found "Scattering precious seed of the kingdom." —D. PATTERSON.

RICHMOND—I held a two weeks meeting at Richmond starting the last of September. This was my third meeting at this place and while tire and gas rationing was a cry of hindrance the meeting was as well attended as the two previous sessions. Two placed membership and seemed anxious to do their part to keep the church alive and working. Some wanted me to return again next year, but some of the leaders

thought best to use some other evangelist next, but had not fully decided. I next went to Rock Hill Church, 8 miles north of Carrollton, where I have held so many meetings I have lost track of the number. The first week was almost a failure due to rain and my own illness but the last week was well attended and one was baptized, while another placed membership. This is a strong country church and has a fine class of young people.

From there I went to my old home to help my sister-in-law do some needed traveling on her place. Her husband, my brother, died two years ago and now her only two single boys have been taken from her by the call of war. While I was there, brethren at Liberty Church asked me to preach a week. This was the first place I ever held a protracted meeting, back in 1914, and I have been there many times since that date. There were no visible results and we closed the second Lord's Day with three sermons and basket dinner. I am now in Bible Study with Oildale church (near Bakersfield, Calif.) E. G. JOHNSON.

SAINT LOUIS (5344 Lillian Ave.) At this writing we are enjoying the renewing of old acquaintances of former Bible Study students, and making new friends who are here for the one week study of Hebrews. We have the happy privilege of meeting some of the parents of former students also. A series of programs each evening by these students makes it a profitable and enjoyable week for all of us.

We regret to report that little Judy Roland is in St. Marys Hospital in serious condition. Larry Scott also underwent an operation during the month but has recovered in fine shape.

Our attendance and contribution have been very good although we haven't broken any previous records. We are constantly seeing new faces with an occasional new membership or membership transfer. We seldom have a member fall away but sometimes it is necessary to exclude one from the fellowship. In a few days four will be thus withdrawn from, but this action is never taken until the erring one has been visited, not once but repeatedly, and until the elders feel that such a one has been made to realize his duty and everything possible done to restore him.

Winford Lentz who is stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training School was with his family and

the church on a recent leave.
JESS PARKS.

INDEPENDENCE—I know that everyone will rejoice to know that Bro. George Kreeger is improving so nicely, and is now able to sit up quite a lot, and walk around the house in an effort to regain his strength. Morris Acree has finished his training at Camp Fannin, Texas and he and family are with us again, although Morris leaves Nov. 28, for Fort Ord, California and we do not know where he will go from there. May this war soon end and that all of our boys be able to come home before long, and to stay. And may the Lord be with all Christians everywhere. Mrs. GEORGE A. PHILLIPS.

SAINT LOUIS (7121 Manchester Ave.) An outstanding event in this congregation's history occurred when two of our most faithful and beloved members were united in marriage. Hershel Ottwell read the ring ceremony which united Bonnie Morrow to Kenneth Morgan. The bride wore a gown of white satin and carried a colonial bouquet of white snapdragons and carnations. Her sister, Eleanor who was bride's maid, wore blue taffeta and carried a complementary bouquet. Dick Kerr, young evangelist from Brookport, Ill., was best man.

The ceremony which was held by candlelight at the home of the bride, featured also a wedding march played by June Barton. Later a reception was held attended by all members of the wedding party and invited guests. As a honeymoon trip the couple went to West Virginia, where Kenneth held a brief meeting at Stover. They were guests in the home of Brother Edgar Stover of that place. They are now enroute to the northwest where Bro. Morgan will resume his work in the vicinity of Spokane, Washington, to continue through the ensuing year.

We are pleased to announce that Junior Young who was hospitalized at Saint Mary's has now been released and returned home.

All who are acquainted at Summersville, will be saddened to learn of the death by stroke of Sister Lloyd Cochran. She was walking to the mailbox some distance from the house, when she was suddenly stricken. Unable to call for assistance, she was later found by Bro. Cochran in a critical condition and suffering from exposure to the cold. She was the mother of five members of the Manchester church including Clarence, Warren, Lillian and Wilma

Cochran and Mrs. Fred Bower.

Word has been received of the wounding in action of Bro. Henry Boren, who is in an English hospital at present, having been returned from Germany. He and Martha are parents of a baby girl, Annette Gail, born very recently. We are praying for Henry's speedy recovery.

Clarence Cochran gave us a fine talk on "Anchors" at service Lord's Day morning, December 3. —EVELYN ROBINSON.

On Dec. 3, our Sunday evening services will be resumed as well as our Friday night meetings since our building repairs near completion. Sister Junie Simpson has been confined to the Rolla Hospital the past two weeks. We hope for a speedy recovery for her. We were happy to have Bro. Rolla Smith of Flat River and Bro. Everett Webb of Denver, Colo., in our worship on Nov. 26. Bro. Floyd Fleming delivered us the message that day.

Bro. Virgil Atwell and wife, formerly of this place, but now at Warrensburg, are greeting all of their old friends and brethren in Saint Louis during a short vacation and visit.—VERN ATWELL.

ELLINGTON—Brother Bernell Weems held our meeting this last fall and had good interest throughout. There were two who obeyed the gospel and 3 were restored. May the Lord ever bless Bro. Weems is our prayer. The work is going along very well.—GUY GASTINEAU.

WARRENSBURG—We are still holding services over the Vernaz Drug Store as previously announced. We have about the same attendance as our last report showed. There are eleven members who attend quite faithfully and we have some other regular attendants who have not yet transferred their membership. There are several transients who drop in for an occasional service and a few soldiers have come, none attending steadily as yet, however. We could use some additional talent but are slowly breaking in what we have. Considering all things, I believe we are doing as well as could be expected but a good meeting might serve to stimulate interest. Anyone passing is urged to visit us, and any help in the way of talent will be appreciated.—VIRGIL ATWELL.

LAMINE—Brother Bernell Weems held a recent meeting for the brethren resting in some visible strength to the church. He was assisted in the song portion of the meeting by Bro. Clyde Thompson of Goodwater, Missouri.

After the meeting, Bernell remained to finish out the year in personal work in that area, while Clyde came to St. Louis and secured employment.

BONNE TERRE—The church here recently baptized an aged man, and an excellent audience was present for the service that night. An exchange of talent had been worked out with the congregations at Flat River and Festus participating. It is hoped that all three places will benefit by this arrangement.

WHAT THEY SAY

Here are some of the comments concerning Brother Zerr's new book.

An Elder: "This is one of the finest things I've ever seen for a teacher. As for myself, I have always had trouble asking questions in such a way as to make myself clear. But here" a ready fund of 16000 such questions on the entire New Testament. I recommend it to all students.

Bro. Zerr himself: "I certainly wish to express my appreciation for the book, both as to its neatness and practicability of use. I cannot understand how so much matter could be published in so handy a volume without crowding. But no crowding has been done and it is a sizable volume and makes an impressive appearance. In short, I do not see a single feature of the book on which I could suggest any improvement".

A mother: "We intend to start a Bible Study in our home. I propose that one of us read a chapter while all look on their Bibles. After that we will close our books and then one of us will ask the questions. It will be thrilling to go through the whole New Testament in this fashion, and we plan to teach our own Bible Reading right in the home, since none of us have ever been to one conducted on a formal plan."

A preacher: "Carl, this is a much needed volume. We can put it in the hands of new members and tell them to read the Old Book, then answer the questions. If all would do that, in a short time we would have an educated membership. I'm going to urge all to buy it. It ought to be in every home in this brotherhood".

In view of the above statements and others we receive constantly, I need to say but little about the book. The first 1000 have been sold and sent out. We will take your order for any number of them for delivery about March 1.

There has been a rush on these books as this paper is set up and the present supply is exhausted. Inasmuch as there may not be another printing you'd better order what you want for the years ahead. The price for the 434 page book is \$2. That's cheap brethren! Order yours today, then you'll come first on the next binding!

SISTER CLARK DIES

All who knew her personally, were saddened to learn of the departure from this life, of Sister Clark, wife of Brother W. R. Clark at Unionville. She was stricken while attending the Ladies Bible Study Class, and steadily grew worse after her removal to the home, finally giving up the spirit of life on Nov. 10. She was more than 68 years of age. In addition to Bro. Clark, four daughters, 13 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, and other relatives remain to mourn her sudden departure.

The Missouri Mission Messenger carried a story on the golden wedding anniversary of Bro. and Sister Clark which was celebrated July 25, of this year. Their home has ever been the "preachers home" when in Unionville. With the church there since its inception, they have given of their time talent and treasure for the advancement of the Cause. We deeply sympathize with Bro. Carl and his family in their sorrow, but are thankful that "they sorrow not as others which have no hope." Funeral services were conducted with an extremely large audience present, by W. Carl Ketcherside.

Church at New Florence

The town of New Florence, Mo now has a faithful congregation of disciples banded together for worship by Bro. Hershel Ottwell. There are 8 charter members on the list and Bro. Ottwell has the oversight of that work. No meeting was held, but Hershel taught a Bible Study nightly in the school auditorium, spending 25 minutes in the book of Acts followed by a 20 minute exhortation. Two business meetings were held in which a program was outlined for development for all in the Master's work. During this month the congregation is meeting at the Walter Scheppman home, and in January will worship at the Adams home. Congratulations to the brethren at New Florence!

Many a self-made man knocked off work too soon.

FROM THE DECK OF U.S.S. REMUS

Dear Carl: I received your letter this evening just before going on duty, and have had my turn, so thought I would write even though it is late. I had read and studied my Bible and came to the same conclusion as yourself about the chaplain's services. You are certainly right about not missing the church until you are deprived of it! I have learned more since I have been in the Navy along that line, than ever before in my life. As for studying I have done a lot of it, but your recommendation that I start teaching the fellows is out of my line, for I have thrashed so much out for myself which I'm sure will have to be revised because it's no doubt wrong, so I'm afraid I'll teach something that isn't correct. I have let my "skimmer leak" in not taking advantage of studying when I was where the church met, and don't think I'll not try and redeem the time when I get back for I'll be glad of the privilege!

I've had no mail from any one for sometime and am worried and blue. Nina writes everyday but her letters come in groups or business. Yours is the only other I've received and I've read it and the Missouri Messenger over and over. Others in the crew are passing the paper around now and reading it.

I'm feeling fine physically, have good eats, a good place to sleep and the best of medical care and they do all that is possible for our care and comfort and health. I am in line for advancement, like my lins of work as much as possible. I do not like the Navy however and get homesick, blue and discouraged. But I'm not by myself and am looking forward to being with my wife, children and friends again sometime.

Carl I feel that you are hitting the job too hard. Ease up a little I hope you are feeling better after your heart flare up, and may God bless you and keep you healthy, happy and safe. Write everytime you can, for I need your letters and your prayers.—WILLIAM NORRIS S-2C.

Send us the names and addresses of soldiers who should receive books. We'll send them good reading material at once without cost or obligation. Stand behind our boys who stand for us!

Do you want Christ to represent you above as you represent Him below?

SHAMROCK DISBANDS

The little congregation at Shamrock, near Nixa has recently disbanded due to the fact that Bro. Leonard Stoneman who was assisting leadership was forced to go to Kansas City for employment, due to lack of transportation facilities in his vicinity. Most of the membership was originally from the Nixa church and will worship there until such time as the Shamrock project may be revived. Meanwhile Bro. Stoneman expects to meet with the church at 59th and Kenwood in Kansas City.

CHURCH IN HASTINGS

Will all who have friends and relatives in or near Hastings, Nebraska, call to their attention that there is a faithful congregation of disciples meeting there now? Services are being held in the home of Brother Homer Matson at 807 North Denver St., Hastings Nebraska! Let us encourage this work by writing others to attend!

From the Mud of France

(Continued from Page 1)

Carl, I hope and trust that all America may not only read but take heed before it is eternally too late. Man, it's uplifting to read something like that!

It seems you're pretty busy this fall in marriage ceremonies alone. Everyone must be planning on it. I know that Ken and Bonnie will make a grand success of their mutual career, materially, and in service to our Royal Master and I'm happy to hear of a marriage of that sort. I received a very splendid letter from Kenneth recently and it was so welcome. I look forward to the excellent letters from Christians who are battling furiously and courageously against the wiles of the devil to save many from the wrath to come. Kenneth has proven himself a faithful worker. May God bless him!

I know it would be a pleasure to meet Bill someday (Bill Norris, of Nevada) for it is a special privilege to meet men who are strong enough to bear the cross against innumerable foes and heavy odds. I'm sure we of the church can fight a great battle if we combine our forces and carry on a planned invasion.

You know that a Christian must shun profane and vain babbling, for such things eat as doth a canker, therefore, I do not indulge in the filthy conversation continually carried on in the army. I talk to those only who are willing to talk like a responsible human. I can abstain from such talk and ungod-

ly deeds, but I cannot help hearing things that are unpleasant and acts will appear which are before your eyes in an instant. Why? Because of the continual onslaught of Satan through ungodly men. Yet I feel that though such things are heartbreaking to observe, I have been made to realize many things which I would not have known otherwise. I know that in the event God permits me to return to civilian life I can appreciate finer things more. Just a simple consideration of the profane words which proceed from the mouths of thoughtless men is enough to make anyone realize how cold, barren and lifeless is such speech. It's a shame and disgrace to their families and an abomination in the sight of our God?

I wonder if this (evidently necessary) present conflict will arouse America from her sleep? Will all the boys return to fulfill their ungodly desires and leave God without reverence? I sometimes wonder if the war should end when so many God-dishonoring, Bible-hating men, thinking only of drinking, gambling and lust, wish for its conclusion solely for their gratification! I feel that God is not well-pleased with the speed of our nation, so often called "the land that we love." It is doubtless true that we have the greatest nation on earth, then why cannot we cherish, honor and obey the God of heaven, who has blessed us with such an heritage? I am happy that there are some who are anxiously looking forward to the time when they can return home, there to worship in spirit and truth—JERRY R. MINTON (Soldier in France.)

(THANKS, Jerry, for the wonderful sermon which you have preached from a foxhole. I hope that all Christians will read it and think. Come again!)

ABOARD A PACIFIC CRASH BOAT

(Continued from page 1)

in contact with some serious casualties and war was brought home to me before I ever came across. In October '43 I received my overseas orders and was shipped to San Bruno for 5 days, then to Port Hueneme, Calif., which was only 50 miles north of Los Angeles. There we formed our outfit which was "Acorn 19." I saw my last glimpse of the states sometime in December.

Since then I have been in the Russell Islands, then to New Georgia, back to the Russells, from there (after transfer from Acorn 19) to Guadalcanal, and from

there to where I am now on Navy 140. I've had many experiences, and lots of them unpleasant. Being a pharmacist's mate I see the wreckage of battle.

Right now, I have a very pleasant duty most of the time. I am aboard a "crash boat". It is small but very fast and is used to pick up survivors from airplane crashes, or what is left of them. Usually it is the latter. But the good part is we seldom have a crash, although last week we had to go on a bad one and ended up by taking the body out of 60 feet of water. But for the natives we never could have done it. They are very interesting and shrewd in their own way.

Not so long ago I caught a nice fish weighing from 10 to 15 pounds. It was called a "Corona" and it looks very much like a small tuna. There certainly are some mammoth fish in these waters. My most interesting experience out here was to watch a native Frenchman dive after turtles. They weigh from 75 to 300 pounds and are as fast as a fish in water. We took several officers on an overnight turtle hunt with this French guide. He fishes with dynamite. The fish he caught, were baked on the beach that evening and were certainly delicious. Carl, did you ever hear of fish glizzards? I ate my first at that time! Not bad! We caught two turtles that night weighing 75 and 150 pounds. The second was taken from 20 of water, in a long dive by the guide. I hope you find this brief account of some of my experiences interesting. I still have a long time to go out here, but when I get back I'm planning to get married—and you know who the girl is.

You are doing a wonderful work as well as the others who are fighting a spiritual warfare. I'm praying for all of you in it. Your brother in Christ and friend JAMES STORM.

(EDITOR: Thanks a lot Jimmie. It's always good to hear from one of our former Bible Students. But you rather put me on the spot. Recently one of my hunting partners on a pheasant shooting trip was Frank Crismon from Kansas City. I laughed when he told me about some of the big turtles, and poor old Frank couldn't prove his tale, so we had it on him! Now you come along and confirm it. I still doubt though that the soldiers use turtles for taxi to get back to camp. Frank! But that's enough! Write again Jim, and the rest of the servicemen remember to "go thou and do likewise.")