Since Editor Bill Stack has found it difficult to find time to edit the kind of a Rouen Post to which we all have become accustomed, Ex-Sergeant Jablonsky has been more difficult than ever to live with, confided that genial personality, Mrs. Ann Jablonsky wife, of the growling ex-sergeant. With that information the Board of Strategy met, tendered the job to Jabby which he declined with alacrity and in no uncertain terms. This writer also having been subjected to much biting sarcasm from this roly-poly man it was concluded that better men no longer should be the objects of his insults—hence this humble person volunteered to "pinch-hit" for our illustrious editor in order to bring the Rouen Post back to life the month before it's tenth anniversary. It was a reckless gesture, but here goes.

At the moment Comrade Stack and his lovely wife Ruth are vacationing in New York.

In order that the readers of Rouen Post may not pass hasty judgment on the excuses Mr. Stack has offered, to quote the famous Al Smith, let's take a look at the record. The writer has in his possession the original of a letter which we shall quote.

McALLEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. Bill Stack
Southwestern Telephone News
St. Louis 1, Mo.
Dear Mr. Stack:

Thank you in behalf of McAllen and the Rio Grande Valley for the "juicy" story you had in the March issue of Telephone News.

I am placing the magazine on our reading desk so that others can see it, and I put a little squib in the McAllen Monitor, though most of the story was lopped off.

You certainly got the Valley spirit in a hurry. We will save a place for you when you get old enough to retire.

The publicity is excellent and we are grateful to you. I am glad you gave a plug to our friend Mr. M. C. Brown, who is well liked throughout the Valley, and who has done a very extraordinary job under trying conditions. People of good will certainly
can have nothing but kindly thoughts of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for their job done in the Valley.

Come to see us again and stay longer.

Yours truly,

Signed

Paul T. Vickers, Manager

A very fitting compliment to a grand guy. By the way of explanation as to Bill's job, his latest assignment is to visit centers of interest in the Southwestern's territory. Not only does he caricaturize situations, points and people of interest in his own inimitable way but he describes them in articles for the Telephone Company's house organ.

IN THE INTERIM

Enough about our good friend for the moment. Since the last publication of Rouen Post much has happened throughout the World and among ourselves. There has been sadness and also there have been joyful occasions. On the sad side of the ledger we have the passing of two of our outstanding comrades of World War I, former members of Unit 21—John S. Higgins and Joseph A. Lennon. Both had reached high places in their chosen fields, the legal profession. We all mourn their passing.

JOHN S. HIGGINS

John S. Higgins, 49, a senior examiner for nine years in the Section of Finance, Bureau of Motor Carriers, Interstate Commerce Commission, died November 27, 1945 in Mt. Alto Hospital, Washington, D.C. after a confinement of 12 weeks during which efforts to build him up for a delicate operation failed. Johnny, as he was affectionately known to his comrades, had been in government service for 24 years, a score of them in service of ICC. He was widely known as result of his duties which took him to virtually every city of importance in the country. He held the record of having conducted the greatest number of cases of any member of the Finance Section Staff.

Because of his long experience and broad knowledge, John frequently was borrowed from the ICC by various Senate committees to aid in investigations.

John Higgins was educated at St. Louis University and Georgetown Law School, Washington, D.C., and was a member of the D.C. and Missouri Bars. He is survived by his widow, a son now in the Navy, his mother and sister. Former members of the Unit express heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family.

JOSEPH A. LENNON

"Joe" Lennon, as he was known to his many friends and buddies, died of heart disease early Sunday morning, March 24, 1946 at his home, 4318 West Florissant avenue. Joe, 47 years old was one of the youngest members of Unit 21 in World War I. He has been a practicing attorney since 1922 and on September 10, 1945 was appointed by Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace, President of the Federal Inland Waterways Corp. Inland Waterways Corp. operates the Federal barge line, with towboats on the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Warrior rivers and terminals at various points. Its office is in the Boatman's Bank Building.

From 1933 to last year he was connected with the Attorney General's Office, first as an assistant handling various St. Louis legal matters, and after 1939 special assistant in charge of delinquent state income tax matters here. He was an assistant circuit attorney from 1929 to 1933.
In 1934 Joe received the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Thirteenth district. In the same primary, Representative John J. Cochran of that district was defeated for the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate by Harry S. Truman. After the primary, Joe withdrew as nominee for the House, and Representative Cochran took his place on the ticket.

He was a graduate of Yeatman High School and St. Louis University. The funeral was held Wednesday, March 27, 1946 at Holy Rosary Catholic Church with burial in Calvary Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Carolene Lennon; a brother, John Lennon, and two sisters, Mrs. L. E. Sexton and Mrs. Len Zeuschel. To the members of Joe’s family members of the Unit express heartfelt sympathy.

To the families of Johnny and Joe—Whenever partings come they are exceedingly difficult to face and we are poorer because our loved ones are taken from us, but we have the consoling thought that our lives have been made richer because it has been our privilege to have shared in their life. We know that God in His mercy will grant unto them that larger and richer life in the realm to come.

"By the time you have reached the middle years, it may well be that people dearer and nearer to you than anyone can ever be again will already be ashes scattered to the winds. Thereafter, one by one, the friends slip away. Death seems to come oftener into your street than he used to do, now knocking at the house next door, now touching on the shoulder the neighbor you were talking to only yesterday at sundown. You grow quite accustomed to the sound of his step under your window."

Alexander Woollcott

On the lighter side of life among former Unit 21 lads and lassies we have had the usual monthly meetings most notable of which was the party Rouen Post No. 242 gave for the returning veterans of 21st General Hospital, a product of Washington University the same as our outfit.

The party was held in the MD Ranch House of Dr. Edwin C. Ernst situated on his spacious acreage in St. Louis County.

An excellent dinner was provided, the catering being handled by Bill Stack. Following that Col. Lee Cady, Commanding Officer of the Unit delivered a very interesting talk on the 21st General’s activities in North Africa, Italy and France. Col. Cady also introduced members of his staff who in turn responded briefly.

It was an evening of good fellowship marred only by the thoughtlessness of a few of the original Unit members forgetting their role as hosts. They spent the evening at cards with old cronies. A course in social etiquette is being considered by Rouen Post No. 242 to avoid a reoccurrence.

On May 11 our hosts will be that gracious and charming couple Dr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Larimore at their beautiful summer place situated among the bluffs of the Missouri River. Really a delightful spot, especially at this time of the year.
GIFT FOR BETTER HUMAN NUTRITION

It has long been proved that crops grown on poor soil give entirely different feeding results from those grown on rich soils. Most of this work has been done in laboratories on laboratory animals such as guinea pigs and rabbits. If these findings are to have practical application the steps between the laboratory and the farm must be taken. We must know what farmers can do in producing the crops, and the public must have dependable means for measuring the differences between highly nutritious crops and those lacking essential elements.

A program was laid before Washington University of St. Louis. They indicated not only a willingness but a desire to do specific work on this important subject. The task was assigned to the Medical Department to work out the experimental program.

Dr. Clopton recently deeded his beautiful 800-acre Brookhill Farm to the University for this purpose. He also gave all the equipment, livestock, and other working facilities and materials. In addition he set up an endowment of $100,000 to insure success. Another great contribution to human welfare by our distinguished comrade. Our compliments and greetings to you Dr. Clopton and best wishes for good health and happiness.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

While the State Department excitedly calls upon Spain to oust the Franco regime, occupied and unoccupied zones of Europe still remain hotbeds of Nazi and Fascistic intrigue and philosophy even resorting to kidnapping children to attain their goals.

The writer’s son King, as a Boy Scout, has been interchanging correspondence with a Belgian youth also a Boy Scout. Not having received an answer to his last letter King began to wonder, until a few days ago when he received a post card from the lad’s father which we quote:

JEAN-LOUIS SCHMIT

Eleve au College de Longwy, France
Libairie Francaise L. A. Schmit

Dear gentle friend:

Allow me to thank you for your kind letter and for the American stamps and your very nice photo or picture to my lovely son Jean Louis. I have the pain to tell you that he is kidnapped since some weeks by pronazis and neofacists which are hostile of America, France, liberty and right. But Jean will answer to you as soon as he will be delivered. In the meantime I will write to you with my very best taste. We have not received your parcel with the note book, the shirt and the pair of socks. Thanking you again for your courtesy. I am dear friend of my pretty Jean, yours very truly,

Luc. A. Schmit

We cannot hope to route the forces of evil from Europe with inadequate policing. Had we listened to General Pershing instead of the international politicians after World War I there may not have been a World War 2.

New address:

Rouen Post No. 242 & The Rouen Post
404 Rialto Bldg.—220 No. 4th St. St. Louis, Mo.