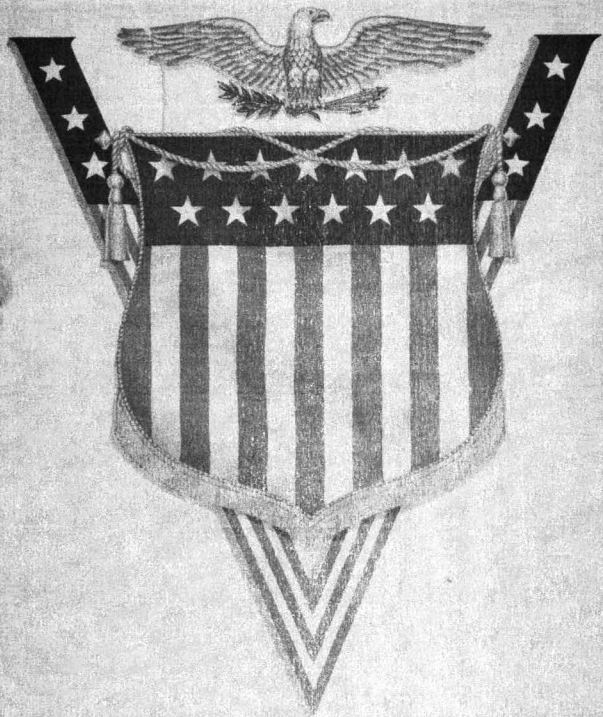


Witness Echoes



Young People's Society "Witness"

**Normegian
Evangelical Free Church**

649 - 66th Street

Brooklyn 20, N. Y.

March 30, 1945.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace,
 whose mind is stayed on Thee:
 because he trusteth in the LORD
 forever, he shall not be moved.

TEHOVAH ^{is} steadfast
 (36, 34).

Service men,

icemen,
the name of our Lord
Jesus!

*Greetings in the name of our Lord
and Savior, Christ Jesus!*

Tonight we are gathered together, or wives have been called upon your behalf. Your parents and relatives, many of your friends and positions what you endured cannot put ourselves into your position, or endured cannot put ourselves into your position, or endured cannot put ourselves into your position.

[illegible][illegible]

return safely, and we will return circumstances of our future.
alone in all interest in and suggestions
most of all for your help us serve you better.
I thank you very much for each one of your letters especially

In closing, I thank you, my fellow students, for your presence here today. You are the "witnesses" to the closing of the Young People's Society "WITNESS". They also enable us to play more than 100 different games. The Lord bless you all!

YOUNG PEOPLE

SERVICEMEN'S COMMITTEE

Gertrude Omundsen
Dorothy Laversen
Olga Olsen
Grace Johnsen
Alf Holgersen

PIANO PRELUDE.....	Olga Olsen
ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS.....	Congregation
SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER, PSALM 46.....	Ed. Torjesen
SOLO.....	Elsie Pedersen
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.....	Pastor Andersen
DUET.....	Mabel Clemensen, Marie Eilertsen
INSTRUMENTAL.....	Horns
SERVICEMEN'S RECOGNITION.....	Carlton Sealand
PRAYER.....	{Pastor Andersen Pastor Nelson}
TRIO, "THE LAND OF UNCLOUDED DAY".....	Olsen Sisters
OFFERTORY.....	Rolf Reinertsen
ANTHEMS: He's a Wonderful Saviour to me Lead me gently home, Father Church Choir	
CHORUS, "GOD BLESS OUR BOYS".....	Congregation
ADDRESS.....	Nils Skjalken
GOD BLESS OUR LADS (back of folder).....	Congregation
BENEDICTION.....	Pastor Nelson
ORGAN POSTLUDE.....	Rolf Reinertsen

CHAPLAINS' OFFICE
U. S. NAVAL RECEIVING STATION
PIER 92, W. 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TO: WITNESS ECHOES

Olga had been after me now for two months or more to write something for this paper. Something to the men out in the Service in the various parts of the world. Well, all I can say is that life is much more complicated here in New York than it was at Midway and Pearl Harbor. What with snow, slippery sidewalks, cold wintry blasts from across the Hudson, cold crowded subways, ill-natured fellow bus-riders, wear-weary civilians, etc., I sometimes wish I were back out in the Pacific. Remember how I used to tell the homesick fellows on Midway, "You might just as well be here as 10 miles from home if you couldn't get there." Well, that's the way I have it now, my family in Boston and myself in New York City.

Guess you heard that I was assigned to a Marine Defense Battalion and was sent to Midway. After 10 months there a change of orders arrived, sending me to the Receiving Station at Pearl Harbor. That turned out to be a big job, and I had plenty of iron in the fire, and work from morning till night. But it had one advantage: I rated a car. That was a swell break for me, even if it was a '37 Ford Sedan. I got a chance to see Honolulu and the island of Oahu in general. I don't know just what I did out there—good or bad—but when it came my turn to come back stateside, why I landed in another "Receiving Station". I call these places "Squirrel Cages". You many gobs know what they are like, men coming and going all the time, with never much opportunity to get acquainted with anyone. New York is a good "liberty port" too, so the fellows hit the beach every chance they get. Too bad the Chaplain doesn't have any funds to provide finances for expenditures ashore.

How is it going with your testimony for Christ where you are located? I always have my eyes peeled for the men who read their Bibles—those who bow their heads at meal time to ask Grace. Yes, I know what sort of language you hear about you all day too. How we need the Christian fellowship we lost when we left home. But keep on looking around you until you find another Christian or two or more. Then you will be strengthened yourself and the other fellow as well.

Beat of all, whether together with other Christians or seemingly alone, you always have the assurance that Jesus is always there! You're never Alone! How good to have this certainty deep inside of you at all times.

God bless you all wherever you are.

Your friend and Brother in Christ,

OTTO T. RAFOS

*"And they loved not their lives unto the death."
(Rev. 12:11).*



Norman Anker
James Larsen
Kenneth Dadsweil



"He being dead yet speaketh."

(Heb. 11:4).

I want to thank all the teachers (Flushing Sunday School) for all you have done for me. I met you at the Church last Sunday and I have been thinking about you ever since. I gave my heart to Christ. It has been a happy and wonderful life for me since that day and on. I'd like to tell you about our Bible and prayer meetings that we have out here in the fields but I'm running short of space. Some day if the good Lord permits I'll return and really give a testimony for Christ. Jesus, my Savior.

—NORMAN ANKER.

I can't explain it but over here, when you start designing bullets there's something that makes a man realize as knowing that the Lord brings a man back to life and that he will look after him. I've seen many, many men and have done it myself, stop right in the middle of an engagement, get on their knees and pray and accept the Lord as personal Saviour. There is nothing that makes me feel so good as when I see men do that for I know the satisfaction and joy that comes into a man's heart at that time. There was one hymn that we sang this morning that was with me and that is the reason I'm writing this. "People at home with me and that is the reason I'm writing this." People at home with me and that is the reason I'm writing this. The words of this hymn are, what a happier world we would live in.—KENNETH DADSWELL.

(No letter was received from James Larsen).

Jesus said unto her, "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE: HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE: AND WHOSOEVER LIVETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE. BELIEVEST THOU THIS?"—John 11:25,26.

HOME FRONT - NEWS

During the week of March 13th we had the privilege of having a preaching ex-governor and the former Mayor of Williams Bay, Wis. with us. He is Mike Peterson, Director of the Free Church Home Mission Board. He had meetings every night ending in a combined meeting on Sunday. God has been greatly blessing Mike as he has visited our Free Churches both here in the States and in Canada.

Lately everyone has been commenting on how happy Esber and Alf Helgesen look. Guess it's because of little Nancy Ann who was born on February 26th.

Up until this issue of the "Witness Breeze", the paper has been exclusively for you fellows, but since we have so many friends scattered abroad, at school, on the Mission Field and in various other places, we know you won't mind if we send this paper to them also. In that way they will also "Keep in Touch" with the church work. Does this meet with your approval?

On Monday, March 12th all the Candlelighters (that's the English Women's Aid Society) had their annual birthday party. All of us girls played games and had a grab bag. We can well imagine how much you fellows would have enjoyed being there with all of the young ladies.

The young people seem to be establishing a beach-head in the Norwegian Department. On a recent Sunday afternoon we all took part in the Norwegian Young Peoples Meeting at 4 P.M., and last Saturday night we took over at the mission meeting on 53rd Street and 5th Avenue.

Pastor Andersen's unofficial reaction: Has the world turned upside down?

We were happy to see Willie Torquist and his wife, Sue, in Church a few Sundays ago. Willie told us a little about his work, and we enjoyed hearing about the Lord's nearness to them.

The past couple of Sundays the Jr. League has felt something missing; that "something" is John Svani who was their leader ever since Walter Johnsen left for the Navy. Johnny is in the Infantry and is stationed at Camp Croft, S. C.

Say! what's this we hear about Marlon Olson turning "celebrity" on us. His picture together with a nice write-up about his work, appeared in the Norwegian paper.

Report from Friday night meeting: Some 60 to 70 girls; 4 fellows. How about the Candlelighters taking over?—Or would one of you boys like the job?

The Hilltop Reunion Dinner went off well this year too. One improvement was that we were all gathered in one big hall. The committee departed from the traditions of previous years in that a profit was made on the tickets, and as a result a net amount of \$230 was divided between the Home and Foreign Missions. Dr. R. H. Glover of the China Inland Mission gave a stirring missionary challenge which will long remain with us.

CLARENCE HOLVIG

"Though things could be a lot worse up here, I can hardly wait for that grand reunion that we're going to have in church. I'd really love to get back into the swing of things back there and sing in the old quartet again. So until that day—Keep looking up and God bless you all."

MARDON OLSEN

Somewhere in the North Pacific.

"I haven't been to a real live church since I left home and don't expect to until I get back to the old meeting place. I feel and know that you are remembering me over here and that alone has been a great comfort. Until we meet again, 'Keep Nothing' and 'Keep Looking Up.'"

ERLING HANSEN

Somewhere in North Africa.

"We received a Christmas card with a word of 'Thanks' from EMIL J. JOHNSSEN.

From STANLEY DAHL we hear: 'I received one of the Witnesses' address the other day and just want to tell you how much I enjoyed reading it, and I sure do hope you will keep it up. One suggestion I'd like to make is that you write more about where the fellows are.'"

Stanley is in the Philippine Islands.

LESTER OLSEN tells us: 'I had a letter from Geo. Christiansen and he tells me he met his cousin Al Pedersen in France. I know I've been close by where they are a few times but haven't been able to get to see them. At present I'm staying in a house here in Belgium, and, we have a stove which is tops. Thanks for your package and papers. It's good to know you remember us.'"

GOD BLESS OUR LADS

by E. SPARROW, Cardiff, England

"God bless our lads" in air, on land and sea
Full well we know how dear they are to Thee
Where'er they go, whatever they may dare
God ever keep them in Thy gracious care.
"God guard our lads" by night as well as day,
For we, at home, for them will ever pray
That war and strife and cruelty may cease,
And Thou wilt send us Everlasting Peace.

"God guard our lads", oh keep them ever near!
Make strong their faith and drive out all their fear
Give them a vision of Thy saving love,
That nothing in this world can ever move,
"God guard our lads" and though just now they roam,
Grant us our prayers and bring them safely home.
"God bless our lads" and cause their eyes to see
That peace, alone, can only come from Thee.

(Sung to the melody: "Abide With Me").

Our Honor Roll

Anker Abrahamsen
 John Abrahamsen
 Martin Andersen
 Anskar Andersen
 Edwin Anderasen
 Kenneth Anker
Norman Anker *
 Herbert Arnesen
 George Arnesen
 Henry Belland
 Stanley Breckne
 Einar Buckstad
 Douglas Buckstad
 Joseph Buzinski
 John Caldwell
 Thomas Christiansen
 George Christiansen
 Carl Carlsen
 John Carlson
Kenneth Dadswell *
 Stanley Dahl
 Hjalmar Egeland
 Per Egeland
 Casper Eidsvaag
 Gilbert Gertsen
 Harold Gertsen
 Christian Gundersen
 Steinar Gundersen
 Arnold Hanson
 Erling Hansen
 Alf Hansen
 Jeannette Hansen
 Josef Haugland
 Norman Hansen
 Clarence Holvig
 Andrew Isaksen
 Emery Isaksen
 Gultholm Isaksen
 James Jacobsen
 O. Albert Jacobsen
 Anton Jensen
 Gordon Jensen
 J. E. Johannessen
 A. Walter Johnson
 E. James Johnsen

Hjalmar Johnsen
 Erick Kvinge
James Larsen *
 Edward Larsen
 Edwin Larsen
 Gordon Larsen
 Roy Larsen
 Kenneth Larsen
 Howard Lauersen
 Arne Lindland
 Thorbjorn Lindland
 Lester Nelson
 Richard Nelson
 Henry Olsen
 A. Mardon Olsen
 Petter Olsen
 A. K. Olsen
 Edward Olsen
 James Olsen
 Lester Olsen
 Bernhard Pedersen
 Alfred Peterson
 Erling Pedersen
 Harold Pedersen
 Sverre Pedersen
 C. K. Petersen
 Otto Rafos
 Einar Ramsland
 Sigfred Rommen
 Jacob Sakariassen
 B. Salvesen
 John Sande
 James Simonsen
 Torulf Skarsten
 Rudolph Sorenson
 Olav Stave
 Enok Stueland
 John Svaa
 Sydney Syvertson
 Harvey Tellefsen
 Stener Tonnessen
 Robert Williams
 Edwin Wood
 Richard Wood

