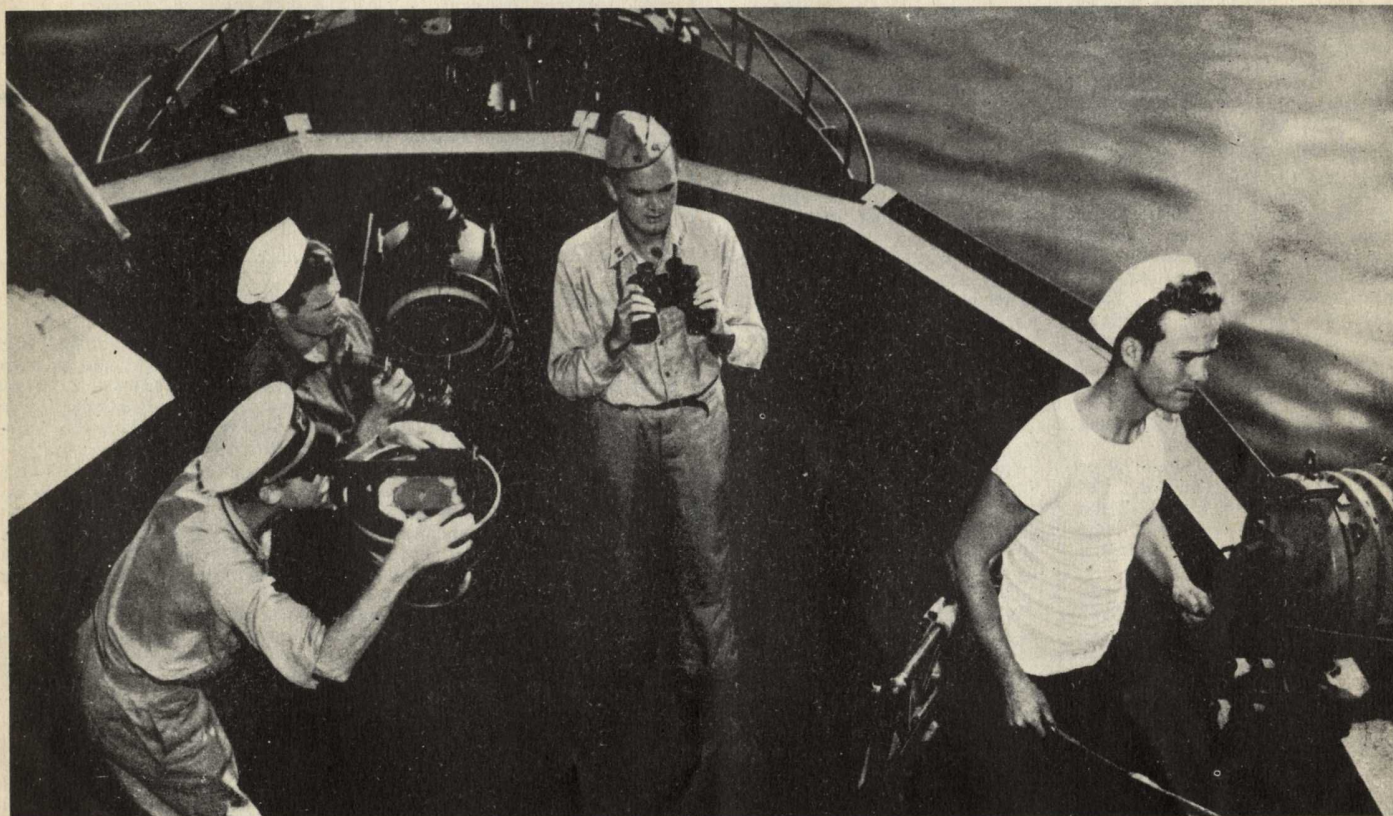


MAY YOU THRIVE IN 45

GREENPORT, L. I., N. Y.

DEC. 31, 1944



Skipper Ralph E. Wilson (center) and crew members on the conning bridge of the yard minesweeper 29 which operated along most of the African coast, led the fleet into Salerno, Anzio and Provence.

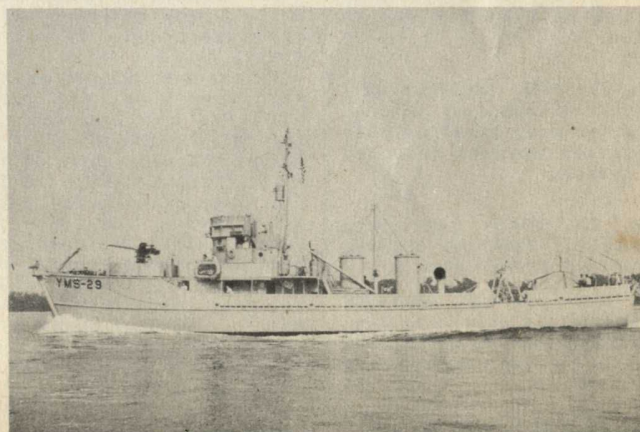
YMS 29 MAKES HISTORY DESTROYING MINE FIELDS Saturday Evening Post Tells Story of Action

In a graphic report to the nation of the magnificent work of U.S. Navy minesweepers, the YMS 29 was cited as an outstanding example in a story by George Sessions Perry published in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

The YMS 29 was our hull No. 558. She was launched April 11, 1942 and sponsored by Mrs. N. S. Hague. Mr. Perry prepares his readers for the experiences of the 29 by describing the problems confronting shipping during the early part of the war.

"Late in 1939, the cruiser HMS Belfast was steaming near Scapa Flow when a terrific underwater explosion occurred. All that could be seen above the smoke, fire and water that enveloped her was her foremast canted sharply forward. It was presumed that she had taken a torpedo, but no submarine could be found. Within a year 1,000,000 tons of British shipping went to the bottom. Meanwhile a peculiar object was found among the mud flats at the mouth of the Thames.

(Continued on Page 2)



The YMS 29 - Delivered July 29, 1942

THE BOWLINE

Published the last day of the month by the employees of the Greenport Basin and Construction Company, Greenport, Long Island, New York.

Leonard G. Krancher, Editor

WITHHOLDING TAX

Jan. 1st., 1945, is the date set for a new set of withholding rates and exemptions. This year total withholdings will match more closely the actual taxes you must finally pay from your wages. On the average withholdings will be about the same in 1945 as in 1944, although some will be slightly more or slightly less.

Your employer is required by law to take specific amounts out of your pay on the basis of the amount you earn and the number of dependents you report. This year the rate table provides a rate for earnings (for example at least \$44.00 but less than \$45.00). Last year there was a rate for at least \$40.00 but less than \$50.00.

If after you file your exemption certificate, the number of your exemptions increase or decrease, you must file a new certificate within 10 days.

It is important that you notify the Personnel Office whenever there is any change in the number of dependents.

TAX CALENDAR

Jan. 1, 1945 Withholding under new exemption certificates and new tables begins.

Jan. 15, 1945 Amended declaration return covering estimated 1944 tax may be filed.

Jan. 31, 1945 Employer will furnish withholding tax receipt showing total of 1944 wages and amounts deducted for taxes.

Mar. 15, 1945 Last date for filing 1944 tax return. There are three ways:

- (1) Those who earn less than \$5,000.00 may generally file their withholding receipt and have the government figure the tax, or
- (2) A single, short form may be used, or
- (3) The regular long form may be used.

YMS 29 MAKES HISTORY

(Continued from Page 1)

Lt. Comdr. Ouvry, RN, dismantled it and found that the object was a new mine which would detonate by the slight movement of a magnetic needle when a ship passed above it. It rested on the bottom, which explained the ineffectiveness of old sweeping methods. The British began de-gaussing, or neutralizing the magnetic field of their ships. Further, instead of being content to sweep in the old mechanical way, with paravanes which cut the mooring of a mine and allowed it to float to the surface to be dispatched with rifle fire, they began to sweep by towing a long electrically charged cable that sent out magnetic impulses and thereby caused the mines to destroy themselves. Other types of mines also appeared.

In the battle of wits, the Germans had performed brilliantly."

In the fall of 1944, Mr. Perry stepped aboard the yard minesweeper 29 at sea. There he soon realized was one of the reasons why the allied fleets sailed the seas without the terrific losses they had been taking.

"Sorry I couldn't come down to meet you," said 25 year old Lt. Ralph Wilsen, of Grove Pointe, Michigan, "But our tail is a good many feet long," pointing to the electric cable streaming astern, "And if I don't stand here with a Very pistol and a megaphone, those amphibious craft will run across it and cut it off."

The skipper went on to explain that the area had already been thoroughly swept on D-Day, but that it was necessary to go on sweeping every day since the Germans could sneak over in planes at night and drop mines.

I noticed some gear in addition to the long cable and asked what it was. "That's just our racket maker," he said. "Makes so much racket that it sets off some types of mines before we get to them."

Later over coffee in the ward room I met the other officers and learned the saga of the YMS 29.

They had swept most of the North African coast, had led the fleet into Salerno, Anzio and Provence. Of the first group of YMS's to come over from the States, the 29 was the last one left. Some had been lend-leased to the French. Navy security will not permit us to tell what happened to the others.

Once they had snared a mine and hauled it alongside before they realized what it was. By some miracle, none of the contact points touched the hull.

CHIPS & SPARKS

VETERANS' CHRISTMAS - Company supervisors and Burton Potter Post A.L. co-operating with Local 47, collected \$191.30 from employees to be used to purchase presents for wounded veterans now in Suffolk County Hospitals.

YARD TUG DEPARTS - Delivery of the first of the 110 foot wooden tugs has been made to the U.S. Navy Department. These sturdy craft are versatile ships. Besides their ability to do general harbor work they are top notch fire boats.

FUEL OIL - Seventy-four million gallons of fuel oil was used by one unit of the U.S. Fleet in supporting the landings in the Philippines--the capacity load of 17 ocean-going tankers.

RETRIEVER TRANSFER - G.B. & C. facilities were called upon to perform an unusual job in loading for shipment on flat cars fourteen 42 foot torpedo retriever boats for the Navy Department. The Maintenance department handled the assignment in its usual efficient manner.

HERE ARE THE CAUSES - you apply the remedy. At a recent meeting of the yard Safety Committee the causes of our lost time accidents were thoroughly investigated. It was shown that 91% were caused by 3 conditions: falls, 31%, falling objects, 31%, strains and sprains, 29%. Suggested remedies were: for falls, good housekeeping, protect deck openings, guard rails on scaffolds, protected welding cables; for falling objects, safety shoes, careful handling of materials, inspection of slings; for strains, use of hoisting equipment whenever possible, enough men to handle an object, lift objects correctly.

WAGE STATEMENTS

You will receive not later than January 31 two copies of Form W-2 on which will be shown the amount of wages you received during 1944 and the taxes withheld and paid to the Treasury Department by the company. One of these copies the employee uses in making his tax return and the other he keeps for his record. The company is required to send an exact copy to the Bureau of Internal Revenue at the end of the year. Forms W-2 will be mailed to employees who have terminated during 1944.

When the 29 came into the beach on D-Day morning off the Gulf of St. Tropes, besides running the gauntlet of 5.9 inch guns and extremely dense minefields without a scratch, another sweeper tangled up with our gear. Not all the sweepers were as lucky.

They also worked in the Gulf of Frejus."

In Mr. Perry's opinion the mine is the most potent weapon that the Germans have used against allied navies and one which the Japanese will use more and more freely as they become more closely encircled.

"It takes time and guts to clear a minefield. The men who do it live on the brink of sudden death and know it. Like everybody else, I have always been full of awe and admiration for these men."

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A SPARK OF GENIUS

In every human soul there is something we like to call a spark of genius. Like the seed of the most delicate flower it develops only under proper conditions. Uncared for or in an unsuitable environment it does not flourish. Nurtured in good surroundings it bursts forth to win the admiration of all.

Sounds a little long hair, doesn't it? - Alright let's get down to earth! Why in hell does a guy spend all his life with a pick and shovel? For everyone who does you'll find that it's a long story. "If this," and "If that," and "It's been a hard struggle." - But in a large majority of the cases (and I'll bet my last dollar on this answer) someone who could have helped did not detect the spark and it just flickered out.

This man may go BLIND



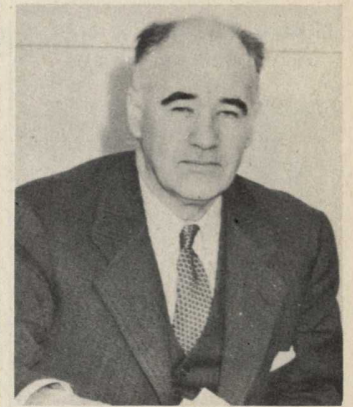
WEAR YOUR GOGGLES!

We announce with profound sorrow the death of James B. Knowles, former Stock Room employee, on Dec. 19, 1944.

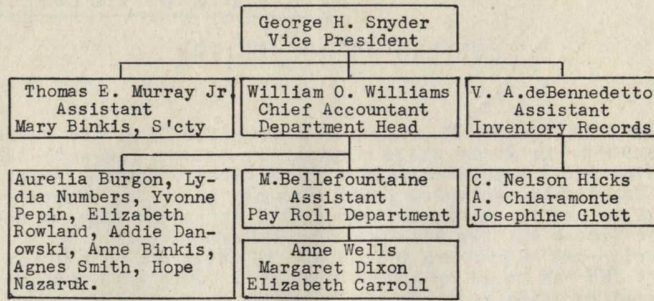
GB & C AT WORK
• The Accounting Department •



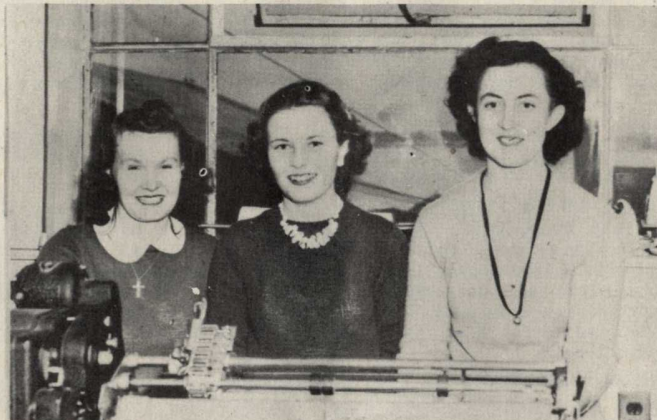
WILLIAM O. WILLIAMS
Chief Accountant



THOMAS E. MURRAY, JR.
Assistant



MARY BELLEFONTAINE
Directs Pay Roll Dept.



Pay Roll Girls - From whom all blessings flow
L to R--MARGARET DIXON, ELIZABETH CARROLL, ANNE WELLS



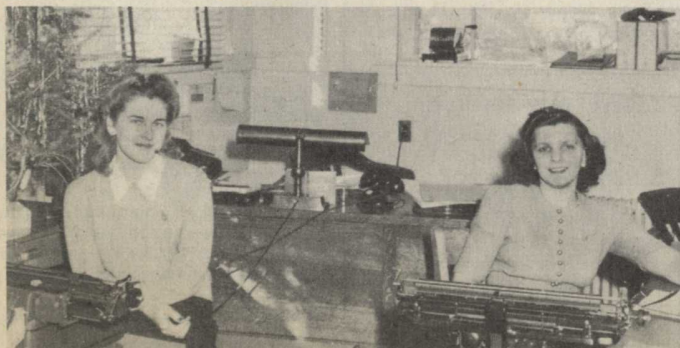
V. A. de BENEDETTO
Directs Inventory Records



L to R--AURELIA BURGON, LYDIA NUMBERS, MARY BINKIS,
ELIZABETH ROWLAND, AGNES SMITH



L to R--ADDIE DANOWSKI, HOPE NAZARUK, ANNE BINKIS,
YVONNE PEPIN



Accounting Office in holiday garb
L to R--AURELIA BURGON, LYDIA NUMEERS



They keep a permanent inventory of supplies.
L to R--JOSEPHINE GLOTT, C. NELSON HICKS,
ANGELINA CHIARAMONTE

DONALD C. POLLOCK DIES OF WOUNDS IN FRANCE



DONALD C. POLLOCK

After surviving five and one-half days in No Man's Land under terrific enemy fire while with the 5th Army in Italy, Donald crawled back to the protection of his outfit. The story made headlines in many papers. Later he was to take part in the invasion of France. There his luck ran out. He was severely wounded on Oct. 5th and died on Nov. 21st. Donald entered the Army in Feb. 1943. He was 20 years old.

ACQUIN McCAFFERY



Acquin, an inside machinist, night shift, has been in the service two years. He is stationed in the Hawaiian Islands, is a Staff Sergeant in charge of a Machine Shop.

FLOYD MARCELLOS



Floyd was an employee of Smith-Meeker Eng. Co., electrical sub-contractors. He entered Naval Aviation in Nov. 1943. Is now in training at Fort Lauderdale, Fla. His rating is AMM 3/c.

ON THE LAND, ON THE SEA, IN THE AIR---

WITH G.B. & C. EMPLOYEES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JOHN BELLEFONTAINE - I am now with the 15th Air Force somewhere in Italy still flying the Silver Queen (B-24) and so far I have 12 missions to my credit. Bombed targets in Yugoslavia, Northern Italy, Munich, Linz, and Vienna---flak is pretty thick sometimes---had an engine knocked out over Vienna but the pilot, a Long Islander, brought us home safely---met a British seaman who is assigned to a Greenport YMS---he could not understand how I could have possibly helped to build it---he's still trying to figure it out.

PETER BUSSO - Have just finished reading your latest Bowline for the 5th time---I did even more than read between the lines. It's swell to see the pictures of the boys I knew and to learn where they are and what they are doing---would like to be remembered to them and thanks for sending the paper.

RUSSELL WELLS - I have been back in the States for the last two months and have received the Bowline via Nova Scotia---a little late but the news was still good to me.

LEONARD GAFFGA - The Bowline in Italy was like a breath of salt air from home. The Mediterranean is a much quieter sea but give me a good "Sou'easter" any time. The last familiar sight upon leaving the States was one of our YMS's clearing the channel for us. It gave me a feeling of pride and a bit of homesickness but I was able to say, "I helped build that boat"---she sure looked small from where I was.

RICHARD WATSON - I am now in France so you will have to change my address. When I get the Bowline I turn to the last page first because I want to find out about my buddies.

WILLIAM QUINN - No doubt the Texans think they have a good state out here---I'll take Long Island in exchange. Remember me to all my friends.

LERDY V. BROWN - I am a Corporal with the Service Co. 40th Tank Bn., and look forward each month to receiving the Bowline. Thanks a million.

GUSTAVE SCHNEPP - You are not able to sleep at night because of the Jap alerts and the days are tough going with so much work to do. It was bad enough in New Guinea, but it's real hot stuff here on the Philippines. The natives seem healthy but are ragged, the Japs having taken their clothing. I liked your editorial about Japan, it's the truth...The Filipino Guerillas are doing a swell job and it will help. This will be my third year without a White Christmas.

PAUL CORWIN - Whenever I see a YMS out here in the Pacific I am reminded of all my buddies and their friends who are building them back home. I want the company to know how much I appreciate and look forward to receiving the Bowline.

ROBERT S. WELLS - Thanks for the Bowline, it's swell. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from somewhere in the Pacific.

JOSEPH M. BOERNER - Since coming down to the Marianna Islands from the Aleutians I have received two copies and enjoyed every word. It's good to know you people are behind us at home.

YARD VISITORS

William Jones, USN
Stanley Staron, USN
Henry Volinski, USN
Anna Orlovski, WAC
Albert Grilli, USMC
Leonard Rutkowski, USN
William Quinn, USN
Frederick Burgon, USN
Edward Macomber, USA
Ellsworth Walden, USN

Clarence Hickey, who was with the 3rd Army in Germany, is now in a hospital in England.

GREETINGS RECEIVED

Leonard Rutkowski
Curtis Wright
Robert S. Wells
George Bauer
Harry W. Smith
Peter Zelenski

GOLD STARS

Russell B. Rose
Walter D. Ebbit Jr.
Angelo Corrozzo
Salvatore Ficurilli
Arthur C. Hunton
Donald C. Pollock

GEORGE C. DREVAS, JR. MISSING IN ACTION



GEORGE C. DREVAS, JR.

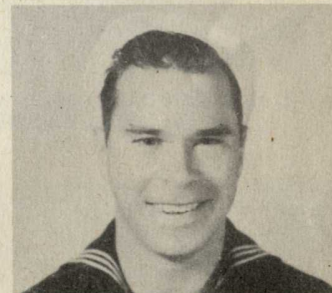
George, a Sergeant in the 444th Bomb Squadron has been blasting Germany from bases in England. He has been reported missing following a mission. He quit the "Hurricane Crew" in Nov. 1942 to enlist in the Army Air Force. His parents reside at 156 Roanoke Ave., Riverhead. We sincerely hope he has landed safely in good company.

FREDERICK LEDEN



Fred was a LCM 3 Welder who entered the Navy in June 1944. He is now a gunner's mate aboard the USS Wyoming.

ROBERT S. WELLS



Bob, overseas for 8 months, is Radioman 3/c and is now stationed in the Mariannas. Attached to a communication unit he has taken part in an amphibious attack. He was previously stationed at Pearl Harbor.

Fred Boutcher is an AAF Sergeant stationed in England. He is responsible for the maintenance of a P-51 Mustang fighter of the 8th Air Force.