

A Word From Our R.M.S. President*[February 1942 RMS Letter 4 - by Bob Lockard]*

We have among our members those who have volunteered their services to the Government in some branch, or in Civilian Defense. Those in the Service we SALUTE you! Those in Civilian Defense we will pardon any delay in answering correspondence because we know that you are doing a noble work, the success of which is imperative if we are to enjoy our hobby. (Under a dictatorship do you think that we could pursue our hobby as we do now? Just answer for yourself!) One of our boys whose application is going through the usual channels is now in the Service. He would appreciate hearing of encouragement from you! The days are long and a cheery word might help to lighten his load. So please drop a line to Private George S. Sterling, Jr., Barracks #82, Medical Section, C.A.S.U. #1111 Station Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass.

[May 1942 RMS Letter 6]

I have just received a letter from one of our Charter members who is now Private Kenneth H. Riggs stationed at 308 SS Flt. c Barracks 9 - Air Corps Technical School-Keesler Field, Mississippi. "Best of luck Ken! Hope that you will have your bars soon. You were a grand host at the last convention and we will miss you beyond words up in Wilkes-Barre." Drop ken a line! He is doing a noble work for all of us!

Have another letter from our Soldier-friend in Camp Devens, Mass. - Prvt. George Sterling, Jr. He writes in conclusion: "Charlie Morris and his wife dropped in to see me while they were at Devens recently for a pleasant, but all too short visit. We covered the fort but had no luck, but I got a big kick out of Charlie's collection of service covers which he had along with him. Charlie, and the rest of the members I've never met but with whom I have corresponded make me proud to be a member of the R.M.S."

Honor Roll*[October 1942 RMS Letter 9]*R.M.S. No.

- 15 Paul Schaeffer - Box 313 - Egypt, Pa.
- 18 Kenneth Riggs - Air Corps Technical School - Keesler Field, Miss.
- 24 John M. Dickey - Co. "I" - 319 Inf. A.P.O. #80 - Camp Forest, Tenn.
- 68 John W. Sell - Batty. "B" - 30th C.A.T. BN - Camp Wallace, Texas.
- 77 Geo. S. Sterling, Jr. - Bat.82-Med. Sec. CASU Sta. Hosp.-Ft. Devens, Mass.
- 82 Carl L. Rathkamp - Comm. Dept. - Galley 4 - U.S.N.T.S. - Newport R.I.
- 89 William F. Ross - Marine Barracks - N.A.D. - new Orleans, La.

Your cooperation is urged to keep this Roll complete! R.M.S. members now in uniform and those who enter the Service later should notify us of all changes of mailing address. The R.M.S. Letters will be sent your Stations, other material to such locations as you may designate. The tide of the African situation seems to be turning in our favor. At least the reports up to this time have sounded good. It is up to you and the other Yanks to give the octopi the final stab which they so richly deserve. At least for the

To War!

Duration you will remain a Member in good standing with no dues to pay. This courtesy is extended to all collectors now in the Armed Forces who may wish to join the R.M.S. upon the recommendation of any Member. Knowing that most of the Service Personnel is located in out-of-the-way places where matchcovers are few or not at all available, one R.M.S. Executive has advanced this noble idea - that we start making "Bundles for our R.M.S. Fighting Men." To be more specific; when you discover a carton of some interesting booklet why not share the first 25 with the men who are risking their lives for you? We, the civilian members of the Society must in a sense shoulder their hobby "burdens," light in comparison to burdens being shouldered for us.

The President's Message

[November 1942 RMS Letter 10 - by Bob Lockard]

Greetings to all R.M.S. Members:

As I write this greeting to you it has just been one year since the bombing of Pearl Harbor! Therefore let me ask- "ARE WE AS HOBBYISTS REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR?" It is needless to remind you of all the covers made possible by this event; our albums are full of such reminders. The holiday season is near and I am sure that we will all remember our friends in the hobby. May I suggest that instead of purchasing cards of greeting you send War Stamps. While the card may not have cost ten cents the War Stamp will be ten times more significant. It will prove to the world that even a devout hobbyist is also aware of the needs of the day and that he is doing his bit towards avenging those who lost their lives that fateful morning. And again to wish you a very, very merry holiday!

Bundles For R.M.S. Fighting Men!

[November 1942 RMS Letter 10]

As a further manifestation of the perpetual bond of friendship existing between our countries 150 handsome match covers, all in Royal Canadian "30" size became the first "BUNDLE FOR R.M.S. FIGHTING MEN!" Mrs. B. Inglewood - 41 Dupont St., Toronto is well-known to the Society members and favorite trader to many. It is a privilege to thank her in the name of the R.M.S. for this most worthy contribution!

Now that the BUNDLES have begun to click let's get to work!! Our goal is an average of 500 per-civilian member of the Organization. Our we taking our lives in our hand suggesting such a "staggering" figure? We agree that it would be difficult for members living in hamlets to supply 500 covers, which means that the burden of this objective must be borne by those in the larger cities. It is possible! In fact it will not drain our dupe. stock to any extent. All shoulders must buck the wheel! All hearts must be instilled with a burning desire to give these Boys the needed start when their hobby is resumed. To simplify the division try to make up blocks of 25 all alike. Scattered covers are next best. No full features or full books please, - except giants! It is perhaps needless to mention the impropriety of giving sample flats and covers with collectors' names inordinately stamped on them. (Save all of such for Treasurer Ryan). In the matter of selecting appropriate covers for the "Bundles" it is best that your conscience guide you. If good enough for your collection they will surely suit the majority. The patriotic conjunctive which is now ridiculously easy my be new to most men returning from overseas.