

TWO SONS OF WORLD WAR VET FATHER EARN MEDALS

FATHER AND THREE SERVICEMEN SONS EMPLOYEES HERE

In the list of families performing distinguished wartime service, the Oberlys, of Bluffton, rank high on the Triplett Roll of Honor.

As World War I Veteran Millard Oberly goes diligently about his duties in the degreasing department "on the hill", his thoughts often are overseas with his three sons, Lieut. Kenneth, Staff Sgt. Richard and Paratrooper Robert, all of whom worked for Triplett before their enlistment.

Two of the sons, Kenneth and Richard have won the Army Air medal for meritorious achievement, and Kenneth has one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Lt. Kenneth also was the hero of a bombing mission over Germany that will live forever in the saga of the Air Force.

He was navigator of a Flying Fortress which had two engines shot away on its first mission over enemy territory—and which was ordered to return to its base in England by the squadron commander.

However, the gallant crew of American youngsters were unwilling to return from their first mission without dropping their bombs. Although underpowered and miles behind their formation they went on over the target area—the railroad yards at Mainz, Germany—alone. Unescorted, they braved the peril of flak and fighter planes to bomb the target, then fought their way back to England on the route mapped by Navigator Oberly.

Sgt. Richard, the other Air Medal wearer, is a ball turret gunner on a Flying Fortress based in Italy.

Robert, with American forces in Belgium, recently had a furlough in Paris where he saw James (Red) Amstutz, another former Triplett employe, who was killed in action on February 9 in Belgium.

Before they entered the service all three Oberly boys worked in our tester assembly and calibrating department.

A little boy's conscience is in the seat of his trousers. Anything he can do that causes no resulting discomfort there or thereabouts is morally okay with him.



Proud of his three sons overseas is Millard Oberly, right. The sons are Sgt. Richard, top left; Lt. Kenneth, center, and Paratrooper Robert, right. All three boys were employed here before going into the service. Two of the sons, Richard and Kenneth, have won the Army Air medal, and Kenneth was the navigator in a bomber that performed a heroic single-plane bombing attack, described in the left hand column.

Millard has been on the job regularly to help out his sons overseas, and won a three-star bar in last year's Presenteeism campaign. When no one else wanted to take the job in the degreasing department, Millard volunteered to leave his lathe and keep a bottleneck from developing there.



TRIPLETT PRODUCTS SEEN OVERSEAS

I am writing to tell you about the luck I have had. I work with a few instruments and I finally received some from the Triplett plant where I used to work. And I sure am glad to see them, because they are made back in good old Bluffton, Ohio. I am not telling a lie either, when I say they are the very best. I sure can depend on them. I am sure proud of the old plant and the employees who made all of these instruments and I wish I was back there working again. Tell all of the old gang I said hello, and keep up the good work. They are doing their part for us over here. I sure would like to see that old shop once again. I hear that John Gilbert is over here some place. Maybe we will meet, I hope.

Cpl. Carter Shisler 35298628
APO 649, c/o Postmaster,
New York, New York

From Lt. Lynn Phillips, executive officer in Chemical Warfare Division on Saipan:

"Here is a bit of news for you. The other day I was helping some of the boys set up a PA system for a small neighboring unit. All went very well, and we used a good voltmeter. I was a bit curious, and after the job was done I found the old Triplett trade mark on it. It brought me home with a bang, I can tell you, and it was very good to see. I'm sure that many of your instruments are used in testing and repairing the electrical system of our B-29's. My curiosity got the best of me and I have just called one of our radio experts. He assures me that Triplett meters are used in our ships and are very well thought of. They are particularly useful in the adjustment of the Marker Beacon System. So there you are—winning the Pacific war too!!"