

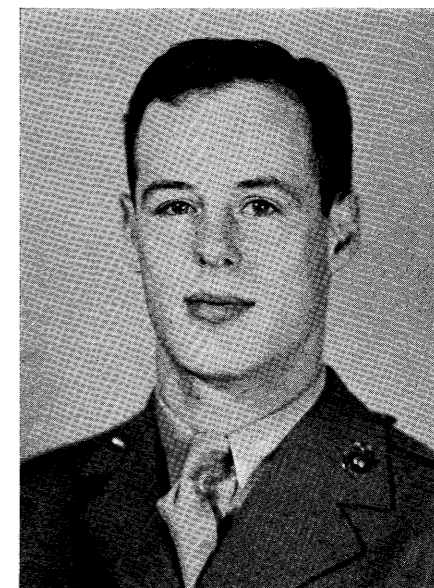


CYRUS LARUE MUNSON

1938

Larry Munson entered the Third Form in 1934. He was greatly liked at St. Paul's, as he was later in his regiment, for his intelligence, his humor and his warmth of heart. A serious illness, which he faced with patient courage, forced him to withdraw in December of his Sixth Form year. He graduated from the Episcopal Academy of Philadelphia, in 1939.

In the autumn of 1940, after his Freshman year at Yale, Munson enlisted in the First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry. He received his basic training at Indiantown Gap. After maneuvers in Pennsylvania and in North Carolina, his regiment, the 104th Cavalry (Mechanized), was assigned to patrol duty on the Pacific Coast. He was killed in an accident, near Salem, Oregon, September 16, 1943.



BENJAMIN RUSH TOLAND

1938

Captain of the S.P.S. hockey team and best scholar of his Form, a regular on the Varsity hockey team at Yale and elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his Junior year, graduated *summa cum laude* from college as well as from school, at Kwajalein aide to the General commanding the Fourth Marine Division, then, transferred at his own request to combat duty, a platoon leader at Saipan and at Iwo Jima, Ben Toland sought and attained excellence in everything he did. From the time he was a small First Former, conspicuously courageous in Lower School football games, he rose steadily in the School, by hard, honest work, an athlete, a scholar and also a respected leader, an officer in many school organizations, a member of the Council and a Supervisor of younger boys. In college, not content with easy success, he rigorously prepared himself by study, to be useful. Great was the promise of his life, for his mind was keen and just, gifted with a sensitive perception of the rights and needs of others, ennobled by a deep goodness of heart, of which modesty and charm were outward signs.

In his Marine Corps training, begun in 1942, and in his service in the Pacific, at Kwajalein, on Saipan and at the last on Iwo Jima, the qualities that had marked his character from boyhood developed fast. He did his work supremely well, as he always had, and more than ever he thought of others. Not long before Iwo Jima he drew up a will, which was found on his body after he had been killed in action. He had a few thousand dollars of his own. Requesting that the money be used to promote better relations between labor and management he left one-fifth of his small estate to be divided equally

between the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L., and another fifth to the National Association of Manufacturers. A third fifth of his estate he left to the Congress of the United States (which could not legally accept it), "for research to promote a far-sighted foreign policy . . . and for efficient government in the interests of all the people." The remaining two-fifths Toland divided between his school, his college and his church, and the *New York Times* for the One Hundred Neediest Cases.

Toland's will gave dramatic form to the thoughts and hopes of many who like him gave all that they had. His message was clear, it was widely published and it was understood.

He died as he had lived, fearless, and serving others beyond the call of duty.

A long letter, confirmed from several other sources, reveals the following facts:—Sergeant Roland Aycock (who wrote it) had been through training, Kwajalein and Saipan with him; and they were devoted friends.

At Iwo Jima, they were in the same company, but in different platoons. Aycock's Lieutenant was badly wounded; and he had to take over the platoon in assault. Toland then left the comparative safety of his own position and joined Aycock, saying, "I thought I'd come up and help you. . . . I felt like a slacker back at the C.P." Under terrible fire—"every ten yards cost a life"—the platoon took the ridge assigned to it. Aycock then asked Toland what he thought of having airplane panels displayed in front of their front lines to show their position. Toland said, "That's a good idea"; and to direct the work he sprang up into a shell hole on top of the ridge, joining five men already there. A moment later, a mortar shell made a direct hit. Toland and two other men were instantly killed.