

Letter to Times

To really know a man one would have to observe him in his home. There most restraints are thrown aside and he can be seen as he really is. There are other occasions, however, where opportunities are sometimes given the outsider to judge a man's true character.

Such an opportunity has been afforded the writer when as a patient at the Veterans Hospital at Tuscaloosa he is sharing a ward with three other men, including the genial editor of the *Montevallo Times*, Mr. W. M. Wyatt.

We esteem it a rare privilege to have made the acquaintance of this man who is so well known to you. Friendly, courteous, tolerant, clean in his conversation, thoroughly informed, a booster for Montevallo and surrounding territory – Mr. Wyatt is ably serving his community. A typical editor of a typical small-town newspaper, he exerts a tremendous influence for good in the Montevallo area.

– *Horace L. Pratt, Shawmut, Ala.*

In the summer of 1939, Mack Wyatt fell ill and spent several weeks at the Veterans Hospital in Tuscaloosa for treatment and convalescence. While there, he obviously made a new friend in Mr. Horace Pratt. Shawmut was a small textile mill village in Chambers County in east Alabama near the Chattahoochee River. In 1980 it was incorporated into the city of Valley, AL, along with the nearby mill villages of Fairfax, Langdale, and Riverview.

Home Again

The editor of the Times is at home after a month in the Veterans Hospital in Tuscaloosa.

I have a few more weeks of resting to do before I can get back into the harness for real work.

It is good to be at home where I can see my friends and have a few chats with some of you every day.

I want to express my thanks to all of you who have been so good to us during my absence.

By your loyalty and support the business has been able to continue without interruption, and I have about concluded that the missus and the boys can do as well without an editor as with one, so long as we have friends like you.

I must acknowledge the great joy that was brought to me while in the hospital by numerous letters and messages from many of you.

Unless you have been sick and away from home, you do not know how much good it does one in that condition to get a letter from a friend.

Your continued interest and loyal friendship will be the means of restoring me to health and my much coveted ability to be of worthwhile service to our community.