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Hebron, Conn.
November 23^d, 1939.

Winthrop Strong Porter,
son of Annie Eliza Strong,
and Henry Clinton Porter
was born in Hebron, Conn.
December 16th, 1894.

He was born in the
New Porter Homestead, at
Hebron Center.

Born in a house that
has been the homestead
of the family over 200
years.

Dr. Cyrus H. Peadleton,
deceased, was the Doctor
who helped to welcome
him to Hebron, and his
birth only cost \$5.00.

He was named after his
Grandfather, Charles Benja-
min Strong, whose family
came from Taunton, England,
and the founder of Dorchester,
& Taunton, Massachusetts.

His great-grandfather, ———
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Hebron,
November 23, 1939

Winthrop Strong Foster

- He was a strong Christian parentage, and a strong Christian leader.

A Member of Hebron Congregational Church -

A member, and original starter of Hebron Grange -
Active in Dramatics &
at one time Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office held
in his home, at Hebron
Center.

Winthrop's schooling was
in Hebron, and in Exeter
& in Private School.

He was a very earnest
serious lad.

Whatever he did, he did
his very best, in work
and in play.

One of his earliest
games he loved to play
was One Old Cap Baseball -
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Hebron, N.H.
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and Duck on the Rock.

In "Duck on the Rock" while playing in Hebron, with his brother Robert and sisters Bessie & Ethel, he got hit on the lip, which cut his lip in two.

His grand-father, Horace Fuller Postup was a Doctor.

As his Mother, sent him & his sister Bessie right down to his grand-father's and his sister had to stand right beside him & see the Dr. Doctor, Doctor Postup ^{Homer Peathy} take 2 or 3 stitches in his lip.

As Winthrop rather wanted to have his sister with him.

He was about 10 years old, when his Duck on the Rock accident occurred.

He still carries the scar.
He also walked in his sluff -
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Winthrop Strong Porter-Helron, Comer
November 23, 1939.

- Inherited perhaps from his
Uncle, Charles Robert Strong,
who walked in his sleep.
His Infact, his grand-Mother
told him, she used to have
to lock the doors at night
because he walked in his
sleep.

Winthrop did the same
thing when a child -

- One night his Mother heard
a noise in their sitting-
room, and got up to see
what was the noise, and
found Winthrop ^{crawling on his knees} ~~walking~~
around the room in his
sleep, picking the chairs.

She asked him what he
was doing, He said, "he
was picking buckberries."

His Mother smiled and asked
him, if he hadn't better
wait until morning.

Winthrop Strong Porter

- Winthrop takes after his grand-
father Strong, and looks
like his Mother.

He is thrifty and thorough
and honest in all he does.

His grand-father & father
taught him, Honesty ^{from}
to be true and earnest ⁱⁿ
~~everything~~ although honesty & truth
were born ⁱⁿ him - he didn't
need instruction.

He was taught to remem-
ber the Sabbath Day &
to attend God's service on
the Sabbath.

He was a member of
the Christian Endeavor So-
ciety - & baptized by Rev.
John W. Deeter - who was
then Pastor of the Hebron
Congregational ^{Church}. During the
World War -

On his 10 day furlough
at his home, he was so
filled with the spirit -
- on page 7

Winthrop Strong Portu

Hebron, Conn.

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- of God, and at his wish &
 his Mother's wish was Bap-
 -tized in the Parlor, of his
 father & Mother's home by Rev.
 John W. Deets, now of
 Redondo Beach, California.

He was Baptized just before
 going to Camp Sheridan, Ohio,
 as Sergeant Winthrop Strong
 Portu, as Instructor of the
 9582^d Division at Camp Sheri-
 -dan, Ohio.

He is spiritually born both
 sides of his family of leaders
 on the Strong side, and
 Portu side, who came on
 the "Mayflower" - both sides
 of family from England,
 from Taunton & Plymouth Eng-
 -land.

He is a great lover of his
 Country - and of his Mother
 Country ^{England} & lover of his Flag.

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Hebron, Conn.
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- & of General George Washington in fact, when you see Winthrop you can't say - George - Washington is dead - His spirit lives - for Winthrop has a daughter, "Beatrice - Lucille Porter" born on February 22nd 1923 - 1923 born at Hartford Hospital, and born on George Washington's birthday.

So great spirits never die, they live - and live on - and on from one generation to another generation.

Winthrop was married to Ethel ^{daughter of} ~~Hills~~ ^{Ginnier} ~~Hills~~ ^{Wether} ~~Hills~~ ^{Hills}, also of great Christian parentage, also of English ancestry.

He entered the United States Army, in October 1917, at Rockville - from Rockville, Conn. he was sent to Camp Devens, Massachusetts.

He remained there two weeks and was transported -
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Hebron, Conn.
November 23^d, 1939.

Winthrop Strong Porter

- to Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Georgia.
He was there all through
the winter and enjoyed the
disease of "Chicken-Pox and Me-
asles".

His wife, Ethel Hills Porter,
accompanied him to Atlanta,
Georgia, and remained in
Atlanta, Ga. while he was
in Camp Gordon.

In the Spring, in the
month of April, he was
sent to Camp Upton, New
York, to get ready to sail
the Ocean to help the boys
Over there.

After one week's stay at
Camp Upton, he set sail
for England, and landed at
Southampton, England.

He remained in England
a short while, still in training,
and then sailed for France.
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Winthrop Strong Porter

- From England he sailed for France and landed at LeHarre, France, and served in France.

He was in the Battle of Chateau Thierry - and one of the lucky boys.

He was sent back to the United States as Instructor.

He left Brest, France, on the boat named "Mt. Vernon", and 300 miles out upon the Ocean was torpedoed by a German submarine, the submarine cut a hole, on side 18' x 26'.

Through the strong-will & grimness of the men & sailors, by bucketing water, in line, by pail after pail they saved the boat from going-down and returned to England, landing at Liverpool.

From Liverpool, England -
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to Lebanon, Conn.
November 23, 1939.

Winthrop Strong Porter

- they set sail for America on the Whiteman.

Well, they finally reached New York, after dodging German submarines along the way.

Winthrop said, he never forgot the feeling he had for his Country, and the feeling he had when he again stepped, he said his foot, on his own land, and felt as if he was home, again and safe.

He went home on a 10 day furlough to see his folks before going to Ohio, as an Instructor in Camp Sherman.

Everyone one was glad to see him, Everyone wanted to talk to him about the Lebanon boys, still over there and about the War.

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Hebron, Conn.
November 23, 1939.

Winthrop Strong Porter

- But Winthrop didn't feel like talking about the war. It was hard to get anything out of him -

He was in the trenches so long, with rats running around, & air planes overhead, and lost so much sleep he really slept now he was home -

And he moaned ^{and groaned} in his sleep at the agony of his experience, while perching in France, and in trench trenches, with destroying wickedness of the Germans.

They wanted him to give public talks in Hebron Town Hall - but he refused - and did finally agree to give a talk, a public talk, in the Hebron Congregational Church, of which he is a member -
(on page 14)

Dehrow,

— her —

He looked fine and noble when he gave his talk on the War.

Yet, so thin, from exhaustion & lack of sleep.

Post-Cum gratias, Mary Elizabeth says she remembers, when he talked, you could hear a pin drop in the Church, as everyone hung on every word he said.

After he talked he answered their questions, about did he see Daniel Harton, and did he see Walter Hewitt & David Strong, some of the Dehrow boys who went across to France, first before or ahead of him.

After his furlough, Sergeant-Whitrop S. Porter went to Camp Sheridan, at Chillicothe, Ohio, to instruct the boys, and remained an Instructor until the close of the War.

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After the War he bought the farm, he is now living on in Gilead, Hebron -

He served as Commander of the American Hebron ^{Guild} Merle Jones Post Legion #95.

He served his Town as a member of the ^{Board of} Selectmen, first as Second Selectman, and now as First Selectman, and on the Board of Assessors.

He started out for himself at the age of 19 years.

He worked in the Saw Mill business for his Uncle Roger Porter -

He and his brothers bought the Saw Mill of his Uncle after his Uncle went into the Grain & Grocery Store business at Amcton, Conn.

At the time of the World War they were in the Saw Mill business along the Hudson River, in New York State.

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Lehron, Conn.
November 23rd 1909

Winthrop Strong Porter

- He is now busy on his farm, trying to keep his home and his family -

He had 4 children:
Douglas Hills Porter,
Beatrice Lucille Porter,
Wilbur Strong Porter, and
Winthrop Henry Porter.

In other words, he was not born with a spoon in his mouth but had had to work for what he has.

With exception of one hard struggle, Infantile Paralysis, he has been quite successful as a farmer, as a parent and neighbor.

At the death of his father, Henry Clinton Porter, was appointed Administrator of his father's Estate of 300 acres or more of land, & in few words will close so far - his life has been a busy

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and I hope his life continues to a good old age.

In closing words I will say -
He was one of the boys,
Ready to serve God,
Ready to serve his Country,
and Ready to go over the top
when serving France in
the World War.

He still carries the Spirit,
but is now serving his Town,
and his people.

Mary Elizabeth Cumming

P.S. He has a nephew named
after him, or named after his
Uncle, His Uncle,
Winthrop Strong Porter.

Edward - Hilding,

His name,

Winthrop Edward Hilding.