

SOCIETIES FILL UNIQUE PLACE

Workers Recount Appreciations Of Soldiers.

Much has been written about the work done by the Y.M.C.A., the Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army, Jewish Welfare Board and other organizations recognized by the government in the war-winning program; much has been written about that work in the great camps and emplacements of America and in the debarkation ports overseas, in the concentration and training camps in France, and on up to the fighting areas. Little is known of the work which these organizations do in the out-of-the-way places, far from the biggest theater of the war, but none the less important in the winning of the conflict.

Secretaries, recently returned, tell of the opportunities for service at Gibraltar, and up near the Aetle Circle on the Mourman Coast. Allied troops and naval forces are doing their bit at these extreme points just as much as their brothers are nearer the center of activity. Recent cable dispatches told of the opening of a Y.M.C.A. hut in Archangel, where American troops are now being landed, having gone up from England on transports to Mourmanak, thence by rail to a port on the White Sea and across to Archangel.

Real Opportunity.

A. L. Plude, of Chicago, general manager of the Chautauqua Managers' Association, who has just completed a record trip as a "Y" transport secretary, says of this work in the Far North:

"The opportunities for real service to mankind are far greater in the isolated places than in those where by their very numbers the fighting men need fewer distractions and attractions. The Mourman Coast, to an American fighting man, presents a cold and dreary prospect. The various war work organizations have recognized this and apparently because the 'Y' has a foundation upon which to build the association has taken the responsibility of carrying a bit of homeland to American units assigned to service in Russia. A 'Y' man, or a Knights of Columbus secretary, perhaps both, may be found on the transports which go north. Up there the 'Y' assumes charge of the work on behalf of all the co-operating organizations.

"Charles M. Bond, a New Jersey man, is the secretary at Mourmanak, where most of the men land. Farther north, at Petchinka, Mills Hinkle, of New York city, is doing his level best to dispense cheer to the allied forces in the vicinity.

Eyes Gouged Out.

"The work of both these men is of greater scope than that of the majority of war workers. That section is full of refugees. On the return trip to England our transport carried 250 wounded Serbs, who had worked their way north through Russia. At least twenty of them were in such a condition that one wondered how they could have survived their experiences. The first man on the gang-plank was a Serb, both of whose eyes had been gouged out. After trying many interpreters he was made to understand that we wished to know out a word he held out his two clenched fists, thumbs sticking up.

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**PAULINE
LEDERLE**

indicating very clearly how the atrocity had been committed. **Morale Strengthened.**

G. H. Rateau, who was the Y.M.C.A. secretary at Ridgewood, N.J., before he volunteered for overseas service, presented a glowing picture of the results accomplished by the war work organizations. Since these organizations were invited to enter the field, he said, general courts martial had been reduced eighty per cent.

"The work at Gibraltar," Mr. Rateau added, "is of tremendous importance. It reaches the navy almost exclusively and little is known of it except that which reaches the families of American boys through their letters home. The work of the censor surely has been multiplied since the 'Y' took over half a dozen buildings in Gibraltar. A bath and writing home are the essential activities of the buildings. Many of the men are stationed on small boats which have few or no opportunities for either. Convoys come down from the English channel and other convoys come in from the Mediterranean.

"The situation in Spain is very interesting. The country is full of German agents, but with the growth of pro-Ally sentiment among the conservative element the Germans are forced to sink about after dark and appear to be cowed thoroughly."

American entertainers—singers, actors and actresses, dancers and jazz artists—have a greater opportunity to help beat back the Boche across the Rhine than they may think, according to Amparito Farrar, a concert soprano, who went overseas several weeks ago to aid in the recreation program of the Y.M.C.A., Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army and other organizations. In a letter to James Forbes, chairman of the program committee of America's Over There Theater League, she says that after an American entertainer visits a hospital the wounded men wait to get right out of bed and rejoin their unit.

"I am hard at work," she writes, "singing every night, and love every minute of it. The boys seem to enjoy me as much as I enjoy them, and always say: 'Oh, please don't go yet. Have a heart! Sing just one.' And of course I sing until there isn't a note left in my voice. I am going to be down in this section quite a while, with headquarters here. Next week I am to give a recital in the Municipal Theater for the city of —, and the officers and soldiers of the allied armies. It is the second of a series of Franco-American concerts here. Quit and honor, I am assured."

"The people have been so wonderful to us everywhere, and cannot do enough for us. I sing everything for the soldiers; incidentally we get up very lively conversations and they love it. They are so enthusiastic and so human. It is so big and marvelous that I feel awed and wish I could stay until the drop of the hat. You simply cannot imagine what has been accomplished."

"I have sung in motor camps, 'Y' and Knights of Columbus huts and dugouts, Salvation Army bakeries, Red Cross Hospitals and even at the bedside of the boys, one at a time, everything from grand opera to 'Tinkle Toe.' I even danced a little. Such a spirit. They want to get right out of bed and go back at the Boche. 'We won't go back till it's over, over here,' is the entire sentiment. And they want the best you can give them—nothing is too good for them. Try to persuade a lot more people to come over, especially girls. The day we arrived, in —, some Americans ran out of a shop crying: 'American girls! Gee, those American girls look good to me!'"

Development of a power site at Crescent, in northern Klamath county, has been undertaken by Dr. N. E. Winnard, of Heppner. The power will be used for pumping water on lands in the Fort Rock district in Lake county.

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Missouri Musical Note.

Some one has discovered that the notes of the quill are the same as the first two notes of the song, "I Dreamt That I Lived in Marble Halls." We always were of the opinion that Bob White would be a beautiful singer if he had confidence enough in himself to get to it, but he doesn't seem to be making much progress in his musical studies.—Brookfield Gazette.

Very Good Reason.

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Job printing, The Observer, Main 37.

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