

SHE PULLS THE STRINGS



Post Signal Photo Lab.

Lt. Marion Dale Tilden of the Army Nurse Corps looks over a cast of puppets which has appeared regularly on entertainment programs for patients of the Station Hospital. The puppets, created from scrap materials, are (left to right) a private, an army nurse, a patient, a "five-star" general, an animated version of Cpl. Leonard Sansone's Wolf and a Wac.

Amusing Small Patient Primed Puppet Interest

If it hadn't been for a little boy who was very sick, Lt. Marion Dale Tilden, Station Hospital nurse, might never have become a puppeteer and patients at the Camp Abbot Station Hospital might never have enjoyed the palliation of her novel miniature presentations. Lt. Tilden first became interested in puppets when she found a young patient forgot his pain when they made puppets together. This was incentive enough for the lieutenant.

The boy got better, and Lieutenant Tilden got better, too—in the art, or rather combination of arts, which are the prerequisites of a puppet impressario.

She read everything available on puppeteering, studied under famed DeMarcus Brown at the College of the Pacific, learned to design her own scenery, make clothes, write music and even sing grand opera.

She once sang a number of operatic parts to accompany a Spanish puppet play she wrote herself.

After learning the art, she built over fifty figures with hardly a pause. That is, until she tried to make six characters for a Christmas show on the Post. Here, because materials were scarce, she took a lesson from the Corps of Engineers. She improvised.

Paper towels, napkins, cloth, boxes and an odd assortment of materials not ordinarily associated with puppets were brought into play. A Boy Scout knife was her principal tool. For "stuffing" she used Camp Abbot rocks. An orthodox puppet maker would be horrified at the

liberties she took—poster paints when oils were not available, finger nail cleaners for brushes, stones for lead weights—but the show did go on, and its enthusiastic reception was the best assurance for her methods.

Lieutenant Tilden attaches herself to her creations by more than just strings. "It is funny," she says, "how I listen to the radio and hear a beautiful bit of music and suddenly catch myself imagining a puppet scene to illustrate the melody."

She likes to tell about her puppet named "Oswald"—how everyone liked the name except for one prominent business man. He preferred "Percival." Investigation showed that "Percival" was his own name. So the little papier mache man was rechristened "Percy Oswald."

It's probably better that puppets can't talk.

Detroit (CNS)—Five brothers named Fuhrer petitioned the Federal court for a change "because of the inconveniences suffered due to the designation as Fuhrer of that ignominious character, Shickelgruber or Hitler."

MONEY FROM HOME

Soldiers who wish to get money from home for a furlough or other emergency may avail themselves of a new Red Cross service.

The camp director will wire the chapter in the soldier's home town, who will get in touch with the GI's family. The family then deposits the money with the local chapter and gets a receipt. Then the post chapter is informed by return wire that the money is on deposit and the soldier may get a check here for the amount left by his family.

This service does not constitute a loan from the Red Cross. It is simply a service to enable soldiers to secure funds from home without loss of time.

Club Activities Broadcast Topic

Operation of the Service Club and the part U. S. Army hostesses are playing in the nation's war effort were outlined in the weekly "Camp Abbot on Parade" broadcast over Station KBND in Bend Wednesday night. Featured on the program were Mrs. Helen Smith, club director; Miss Caroline Paddock, librarian, and Miss Helen Souhrada, cafeteria hostess. Lt. V. G. Henderson, Special Service Officer, conducted the interview program, the script for which was prepared by Cpl. Richard Shearin of the Public Relations Office.

When You've Read It—Please Pass The ENGINEER AROUND.

Telephone Unit Extends Hours

A change in schedule which will make possible a greater volume of long distance telephone calls from the new attendant's exchange on Sundays and holidays was announced by F. D. Wright, camp manager for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company this week.

Hours for operation of the exchange were extended from 2 to 11 p. m. on Sundays and holidays to from 9 a. m. to 11 p. m. The week-day schedule was shortened to from 6 p. m. to 11 p. m. instead of from 4 to 11 p. m., however, because the volume of calls between 4 and 6 o'clock did not justify operation during those hours.

Opening of the exchange, two buildings north of the Post Signal Office several weeks ago has relieved congestion of pay stations considerably, Mr. Wright reported. Under the new system, soldiers may make use of eight booths merely by filling out a slip listing where and to whom a call is to be placed and waiting for an attendant to complete connections.

Mr. Wright also announced that public booths at the 11th and 12th Group Post Exchanges (Buildings 1257 and 753) have been moved inside the barber shops to take advantage of heating facilities.

Attendance Large For Bridge, Tea

The Officers' Wives Bridge and Tea held at the Pilot Butte Inn in Bend Wednesday was one of the most successful to date, Mrs. Lilburn P. Staman, secretary of the group reported. Twelve tables were filled for the bridge session and attendance was increased by more than dozen wives when teas were served following the card games.

Hostesses for the Feb. 2 meeting will be Mrs. Merrill A. Pimentel, Mrs. Dale M. Smith, Mrs. F. B. Vanderwall, and Mrs. Walter H. Zwick. The Feb. 16 meeting will have as hostesses Mrs. Ferris L. Arnold, Mrs. Arnold G. Bode, Mrs. Robert H. LaBree, and Mrs. Darwin E. Smith.

Bridge sessions open at 1:30 and continue until 4:30 when tea is served. A small charge is made to defray expenses and purchase prizes. Hostesses are chosen by a system of rotation.

Tonette and Song Classes Finished

Completion of the Tonette class, taught by Pvt. W. E. Kuykendall, and the Song Leaders' class, under the instruction of Cpl. Richard Critchett, was commemorated with a big entertainment program in the Service Club Monday. Lt. Helen M. Martin presented certificates to 13 tonette players and 21 song leaders.

Masquerade Skate Open to Soldiers

Your best buddy won't know you if you avail yourself of the chance, by special permission of Col. Frank S. Besson, ERTC Commander, to adorn that GI head any way you see fit.

Occasion is a big Masquerade Skate next Saturday evening in the Bend Roller Rink. Prizes will be awarded for the best and most comical costumes.

Separate Rations Pay Increased

The first of the year brought a small windfall, financially speaking, to soldiers on furlough and those receiving separate rations.

The commutation value of the garrison ration was raised from its former 61 to 67 cents per day with the release of WD Circ 327 last month.

The Wolf

by Sansone



Male Call



by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

Briefs For Mission

