



This unusual photograph, taken by Cpl. Don Reppen of Company "A", 56th Battalion, shows a group of musically inclined GIs crowded around Sgt. Buddy Hyde as he makes with a few chords designed strictly for singing purposes. These impromptu sessions at the Service Club sometimes turn out to be the source of unexpected pleasure for the boys around camp. Maybe it's like the old song: "The Best Things in Life Are Free."

## Service Club Is Fun For Soldiers Here

An Army camp Service Club is a soldier's front parlor, his club, and the corner drug store soda fountain. It is one of the few institutions in his Army life that is his inviolate. An officer appears in it only on business, or, on some stations, to eat in the cafeteria.

The Service Club where Camp Abbot men and women relax and partake of some of the nicer features of Army life is centrally located near other entertainment facilities, such as the post theater and recreation hall. In construction, it is typical of service clubs at the newer camps, with a large lounge, a soda fountain, and a cafeteria serving food at moderate prices in a cheerful, efficient atmosphere maintained by Miss Helen Souhrada, hostess.

The lounge, the center of camp social life, is furnished in leather-upholstered divans and chairs, coffee tables, which frequently serve the additional function of checker or chess tables, and other useful pieces. On Monday evenings these furnishings are moved aside and the room converted into a theater, with long rows of folding chairs, for the weekly GI movie. On Wednesday the heavy furniture again takes its place on the side lines, and the floor is given over to the dance.

### Bend Girls Guests

For these dances, the Special Services branch, under which the club is operated, provides busses to bring wives and sweethearts of soldiers and junior hostesses of the Bend USO to

Camp Abbot. Mrs. Helen Smith, director of the Service Club, and Mrs. Jean Adams, Social and Recreation Hostess, utilize many imaginative ideas in planning these affairs. On special occasions, such as the recent WAC anniversary, the dance is formal. Corsages beribboned in pastel shades are furnished women guests.

An all-soldier revue, known as "Khaki Kapers," is the special attraction Thursday evenings. For this feature the singing, dancing, and acting talent of a different battalion each week is worked into a variety program.

The balcony which surrounds the lounge on all sides offers a number of additional forms of relaxation and entertainment. Here the soldier finds comfortable chairs and floor lamps providing ideal conditions for reading. A rack of newspapers from all sections of the country gives the latest news from home towns. Writing desks are placed at intervals throughout the balcony. In a remote corner, where their operation will not be a distracting factor, is a group of pin ball machines.

### Excellent Library Maintained

It is also on the balcony that Miss Caroline Paddock, librarian, has so arranged the post library that a reader can quickly lay his hands on any volume. An extensive display of fiction includes works that have been favorites for several generations, as well as the current best sellers. In the latter group are such outstanding works as "Steep Ascent," by Anne Morrow Lindbergh, "Razor's Edge," by Somerset Maugham, "Forest and the Fort" and "Bedford Village," by Hervey Allen, and many others. The library contains also an excellent reference department, including the Encyclopedia Britannica and Americana.

These are but the main attractions at the Service Club. There is also equipment for individual use, such as table tennis and other games, and a recording machine on which guests are invited to produce discs that will carry home messages in their own voices.

### Activities Supervised

In practically all Service Club events can be seen the hand of Sgt. Buddy Hyde, former Hollywood master of ceremonies and

coach of more than one motion picture star, whose talents and personality contribute much to their success.

Equally ubiquitous in Service Club functions is Pvt. Samuel Finifter, former WMCA newscaster, who recently began a weekly series of open forums to bring participants up to date on the progress of the war. These forums are held in the Guest House lounge Monday evenings. Pvt. Arthur Bourn is in charge of a one-hour program of classical music recordings at the Guest House on Sunday evenings.

Management of the Guest House, a sort of "GI hostelry" is a function of the Service Club staff. Built to provide quarters for friends and relatives on overnight visits at the camp, it consists of eight rooms, each containing two beds, built around a main lounge. The severity of the Army construction is relieved by use of wall board and window curtains. Mrs. Edith Delahanty, who supervises this facility, states that the demand for accommodations is so great that it is often necessary for visitors to make reservations several weeks in advance.

## Commando Kelly Gets Forty Grand For Life Story

Last week Sgt. Charles E. (Commando) Kelly, a mild-mannered Pittsburgh youth, who killed forty Germans in Italy, and returned to this country with the Medal of Honor, walked into a bank and cashed a check for \$25,000, a payment from 20th Century-Fox Films for the rights to produce a film of the sergeant's life story.

Previously, the Saturday Evening Post had paid Sergeant Kelly \$15,000 for his story. The young hero has deposited both checks in a trust fund which he set up for his mother, Mrs. Irene Kelly.

## Notes From C-57

BY PVT. C. E. KLINE

In recognition of accomplishments in training, C-57 holds the Tactical, Technical, Administration and Fisticuffs plaques.

Our newly constructed boxing ring in the company area is the envy of all pugilists. Speaking of sports... it looks like C-57 will have one of Abbot's best softball teams. A crack outfit is being developed under the leadership of Sgt. Shasta. Volley ball, however, is C-57's favorite sport, and we claim to be unequalled in all Camp Abbot.

We have many interesting personalities among our trainees, including Pvt. Antonio, Associated Press correspondent for four years, and Pvt. Ferrozo, a former professional boxer.

Tsk! Tsk! Schedule changes make the boys unhappy. On Saturday the change made the first platoon look like one of those German planned withdrawals. Don't lose your temper, Sgt. Barrows, it's not military.

The boys are still singing the praises of Sgt. Collins for that swell steak dinner last Saturday. Don't forget the cooks too, boys, they had a lot to do with it. P. S. Wait 'til you taste Sammy's chocolate pie. Who said synthetic rubber?

Mail Call seems to be the favorite call. Oh woe is me when that mail comes in. But the old saying is, "The more mail the higher the morale." Please, boys,

no more of those letters without addresses. Such as, Dear Sis, Love, Your Brother Bob. Just give me Sis's address and I'll write her.

Congratulations are in order for James H. Wageley. Announcement has been made of his promotion to Private First Class. Three Cheers. Throw another shovel full on the fire, Kid!

Where some guys in C company would like to be:

Sgt. Collins...Duffey's Tavern  
1st Sgt Wood...Kansas City  
T/5 Skenzick...Swamp, Minn.  
All Trainees...Home

By the way, who was the guy who added the home to the Abbot Cadence? Not a bad idea anyhow.

Don't worry too much about your hats getting the braid on, boys. There are only about 40 bundles ahead of us. Who knows? Maybe in a month or so. Those people over at C and E are really working hard, so be patient.

Oddities: Pvt. I. O. Tiger was a mechanic on a ranch in California before joining the Engineers. A mechanized sow-hand. Pvt. B. M. Tillman can say his general orders while dealing out the cards for solitaire. Mind over matter. C company's one-man band marching the boys to the theater. That boy sure swings a wicked trumpet.

Coming to the conclusion of this column all I can say is look out for C-57. You'll be hearing from us and you will have to beat the bugler up to get ahead of us.

## MPs Withdraw From Ball Race

S/Sgt. Russell Peterson, captain of the Military Police Company softball team, has announced the withdrawal of the team from the post softball league.

Reasons given for the unexpected action include the fact that considerable difficulty was experienced in arranging practice schedules. "It has been extremely hard," said Sgt. Peterson, "to get the men together for practice and games, because of our round-the-clock duty schedule." Rather than continue on under such difficulty, a decision to withdraw was reached by team personnel, the Sergeant concluded.

Pass The ENGINEER To Another Abbotman—He'll Appreciate It.



Camp Abbot soldier and his girl record their combined voices for the home folks, posterity, and all other interested parties as Cpl. "Senny" Sonnenfeldt attends to the mechanical details.

