

'Miracle Drug' In Abundance At Hospital

An indication of the high degree of modern efficiency with which the Camp Abbot station hospital operates was revealed today by Maj. Ferris L. Arnold, Post Surgeon, when he stated that penicillin, the new miracle drug, is supplied to this hospital in an automatic issue in quantities abundant for station requirements.

"It is probably the greatest medical discovery of all time," declared Major Arnold. The drug is shipped in sealed ampoules, in the form of a green-white powder. It is mixed with a solution of salt and water and injected intravenously and into the muscles, depending upon the disease under treatment. In the case of meningitis the drug is injected directly into the spinal fluid. The big bug-a-boo of meningitis is now a thing of the past, with penicillin curing the malady in only a few days.

"Cases that would have been fatal only a few months ago," declared Major Arnold, "are now subjected for routine treatment."

The amazing new drug is used in connection with various sulfa drugs. It can be used with almost anything, produces no ill effects. "The discovery is complete in its present form," the Major said.

Wonders are claimed for penicillin in the treatment of venereal disease, but little of it has been used here for that purpose because the rate of venereal disease at Camp Abbot is extremely low.

Patient capacity of the station hospital is about 4 to 5 beds for every hundred men stationed here. Latest scientific equipment and hospital facilities are available. Every known laboratory test possible by use of modern, scientific equipment is utilized as a matter of routine. The medical supply depot, upon which the station hospital draws for supplies is sufficiently stocked in a city of 25,000 population.

Some of the finest and most capable surgeons in the country comprise the medical staff—men who brought reputations as figures in the field of medicine from civilian life. For example, a comparatively simple tonsilectomy receives more "care and attention than the average operation at a civilian hospital," according to Major Arnold. Not even light exercise is required of a man who has undergone an appendicitis operation until he has convalesced 3 to 5 weeks.

WACs play an important role in the operation of the Camp



Members of Army Nurse Corps at Camp Abbot station hospital, photographed recently before seven in group, who had been at hospital since it opened, left on overseas assignments. Lt. Louise Phillips, Chief Nurse, is sixth from right.

War Bonds Wise Buy, Says Owl

During the Fifth War Loan Drive, which opens June 1 for military personnel, and June 8 for civilians, Uncle Sam will be represented as a wise old owl. The Ninth Service Command War Bond Council has adopted a cartoon character with the physical aspects of an owl and wearing the familiar striped trousers and star-spangled jacket of Uncle Sam to deliver its poster messages.

The character, created by well-known artists, was used by the Third Service Command during the Third War Loan Drive.

Abbot station hospital. "It's positively astounding," said Major Arnold, "that girls from civilian life can be trained so quickly and thoroughly to fill these important posts. The best key positions in the hospital are occupied by WACs. Nearly all are specialists in one field or another." Assistants in X-ray, surgery and laboratory, and technicians conducting the most delicate tests—these are capacities in which women soldiers are proving of the utmost value. "I only wish we had ten times more than we have now," Major Arnold declared.

Nurses at the station hospital are, for the large part, new arrivals. Out of the original nurses' staff here, one member remains, the others having gone overseas. Nurse personnel is constantly in the process of turnover. Describing Camp Abbot nurses as the "cream of the nursing profession," Major Arnold said that the nurses receive special training in general hospitals. They are college women who have spent a full four years in nurse training. All are registered nurses.

The medical detachment, or "medics," occupies a substantial position in the operation of any army hospital. These members of the enlisted personnel are the "backbone" of the institution, filling jobs which range from performing tedious, technical examinations to welding paint-brushes. They may be called upon for anything, and usually are.

Practically all the medical officers at the Camp Abbot hospital have served in the field. Many of them have recently returned from overseas. A few were in the United States forces which attacked and occupied the island of Attu.

At present there are 131 civilian employees at the station hospital. Their duties cover a wide variety of activities. Some are skilled specialists and some are

mess attendants. The outstanding figure among them probably is a little woman well past middle-age, who boards a bus in Bend every evening at 5 o'clock and comes to the hospital to bake pies and cakes until one in the morning. She can always be found on the very last bus to leave the post. This little lady keeps her own personal birthday list. She has a record of the birthdays of all her friends, including Col. Frank S. Besson, Post Commander. And nothing pleases her more than to bake a special—very special—cake on those occasions. Her name is "Mom."

Notes From C-58

Monday, May 8, a bunch of guys from Oklahoma and Texas, and others from the more remote parts of the U. S., started out in C-58 to become engineers. It's not so bad, we tell ourselves. The engineers are builders and wreckers. Now, all we can see in the barracks is wrecks, but we may make soldiers if they ever get around to the building part.

We got our first impression of the army at the reception center. There it was hurry and wait; here it is different—just hurry.

We all enjoyed our glimpse of the snow-covered mountain northwest of camp—the glimpse we got as we came out of barracks for our first formation. We were all slow the first time out. However, we are all hoping for time to stand and take a good look at that mountain after we have finished our basic.

There is serious work in the barracks every night. We are studying training manuals, cleaning rifles, rolling packs, and talking engineering with NCO's.

Pvt. Hewett was worried. He rushed up to Lieutenant Baird and asked, "What will I do with my teeth?"

"Give them to me," Lieutenant Baird answered, and calmly pocketed the plates.

Pvt. Hewett stepped into the ring and helped the third squad, 1st platoon, make high score in the first fisticuff.

The training test at the end of the first week was a triumph for C-58, along with Companies A and B; they scored 100%.

Lieutenant Volz is still trying to get the second platoon to make enough noise to drown out the first platoon cadence; the first platoon is the best platoon—the second platoon is the worst platoon, etc.

Lieutenant Hanson is serving at Company Commander while Lieutenant Griffin is absent at-

tending demolition school.

Lieutenant Long has replaced Lieutenant Hoff as administrative officer.

Pvt. Alfred Yeahquo, Kiowa Indian, has a great tradition to live up to in the service. His great-uncle, Chief Hunting Horse, was a scout for General Custer during the Indian wars in the Northwest. Chief Hunting Horse is now ninety-eight years old, and is looking forward to the one-hundred mark. He lives with his tribe in the Wichata mountains in Oklahoma and spends his time now instructing his descendants who are leaving for service in this war. One young warrior wrote from the South Pacific that he had killed and scalped two Japs just the way his Chief had taught him. Pvt. Yeahquo has promised the Chief a whole bundle of scalps.

Dry Run

By Pvt. William A. McGalliard
I sighted my rifle with careful aim,
But couldn't shoot; the corporal said:
"Dry run."
Went to the mess hall hungry and tired,
Sat down too slow and missed my grab—
Dry run.
Went out for first aid with bandages and splints,
But no one was hurt, just practice again—
Dry run.
Went on sick call; the doctor felt of me.
"Hm," he said. "Still warm. You're O. K."—
Dry run.

Fighting Song of the C-58th Tune

Abdul-El Bull Bull Ameer
By Pvt. C. C. Phillips
The men of our Company are brave men and bold
And quite unaccustomed to fear,
When battles would call, the bravest of all
Was the C-58th Engineers.

With eyes full of fun and hearts that were young,
They never showed any fear.
Always ready to fight or battle all night,
Was the C-58th Engineers.

As they marched 'neath the moon, our squads and platoons,
Leading the men with their cheers;
Proud of their name they belong to the same—
The C-58th Engineers.

183,618 Prisoners of War Held in U. S.; 347 Are Jap

The War Department reports held 183,618 war prisoners in 263 camps in 41 states. Of those held, 133,135 are Germans, 50,136 Italians, and 347 Japanese.

Red Cross Plays Role of Friend

Asked to give a resume of activities during the past year, the Camp Abbot office of the American Red Cross, in charge of Field Director Frank J. Dunning, addressed the following direct and helpful remarks to the men on the post through the ENGINEER, which passes them on for the information of its readers:

"The American Red Cross is here to help you personally, soldier, as a member of the armed forces. The Red Cross goes everywhere with troops because the War Department asks it to help with service men's personal and family problems.

"When you're in trouble, go to your Red Cross field director. He can't work miracles, but the chances are 10 to 1 he can help you. You may need to talk out your personal problems man-to-man and in confidence. You may need information or financial help. If your family is in trouble, there is no point in your feeling helpless about what you can do. Your field director will get in touch with your home Red Cross chapter, which will take steps to start help rolling. Meanwhile, he'll keep you posted. If you are in the hospital these same services are available through a special staff there. In addition, a full-fledged Red Cross hospital recreation program helps when you're down, far from family and friends.

"During the past year at Camp Abbot, over 22,000 men came to the field director's office for assistance. This was in addition to 12,000 of the IV Corps who came into the maneuver offices in the field last fall. Of this number, 2,712 required loans in the amount of \$139,216. Five hundred and seventeen soldiers, due to allotment commitments, would have been unable to repay either a partial or a total loan, so grants, amounting to \$21,934 were made.

Patients in the closed wards of the hospital who receive no pay were supplied with such items as cigarets, shaving articles, tooth brushes, tooth paste, haircuts, stationery, and playing cards, books and games. Parties and movies for the convalescent patients were given regularly. The Red Cross recreation workers inaugurated an extensive craft program.

"All men receiving a medical discharge from the Army were interviewed by the Red Cross, and assisted in filing claims for pensions. Each soldier was informed of all the benefits to veterans as well as the services of his local Red Cross chapter in assisting in his return to civilian life.

"Tell your family of Red Cross service. Tell them, too, that in an emergency they can call on their Red Cross chapter to get in touch with you wherever you are, through your field director. This service is available regardless of your financial status. And when you are overseas—remember the Red Cross, the club when you want fun, the field director when you want help, the hospital worker for both."

Mrs. Matson Gives Books To Library, Flag to USO

The Camp Abbot traveling battalion library is the recipient of several books donated by Mrs. Kate Matson, affectionately known as "Aunt Kate."

Mrs. Matson also has given the Bend USO a 3x6 flag of the State of Oregon, which will be hung at the dedication of the enlarged USO June 9-11.



Susanna Foster, Universal Pictures star now appearing in "This Is The Life."