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Illinois Valley News, Thursday, November 16, 1944



## COME BACK HOME

wants all American women to know, but doesn't seem quite to know how to tell them.

"neuro-psychiatrics" who are beginning to come home from the war.

is working on a pamphlet for exsoldiers and sailors called, "How to how to educate the wives, mothers and sweethearts on the proper way to welcome them back.

the American public to sights ahead, the War Department recently gave wide publicity to the landing of the hospital ship Acadia. Scores of stretchers were photographed on Jersey docks waiting for the wounded. One fellow smiled broadly as he upt his hand down to feel real American soil.

Washington and presumably across the country -- women sighed or shuddered. Some just sat quietly. As part of the publicity, the War Department held a press conference with six Army nurses from the ship.

They had a message for American women.

"We talked a bit on the ship coming over," began Second Lieut. Gladys K. Meister.

"Some scheme should be organized and pushed through whereby women from the ages of 16 up would visit hospital wards and accustom themselves to the sight of mutilated men. They should ask for social work in any capacity. passing out games, passing around books, playing games with the men.

Lieutenant Meister's suggestion wash't exactly pratical. It would not be feasible for all the grown women in the country to traipse through the military hospitals just to become accustomed to the sight of wounded men.

What she meant was that women

to drop the fancy term "neuro-psychiatric" which it applies to mer suffering from war fatigue.

"If someone would just educate their families that these men are no different from businessmen who have suffered from severe nervous breakdown in peacetime, it would take off a stigma," one nurse commented.

Mrs. Roosevelt said she understood some businesses had become so frightened just by the term "neuro-psychiatic" that they were refusing to take men so labeled back in their old jobs.

Maj. Walter E. Barton, Army psychiatrist, added to the discussion a set of rules for receiving back a wounded man into a fam-

Here they are:

1-Remember a wounded man s a normal person. Don't expect him to behave in any unusual fashion. Train your mind to think about what's left, not what has been lost.

2-Don't dramatize either the of the country must strive for all wounded man nor his wounds. Conthey are worth to achieve the emo- fine your conversation to other

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