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LITTER  
BIT  
HURTS**

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## GALLERY OF UNUSUAL PEOPLE

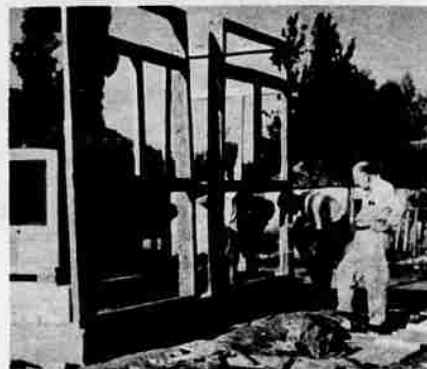
# One-Man Peace Corps

By JAMES C. G. CONNIFF

In Rochester, N.Y., he's just Dr. Lalonde, the dentist; but in Africa, they revere him as "fundi" (big shot)—because this amazing man has brought modern dentistry to millions of natives



Dr. Lalonde relaxes aboard ship to Africa.



Dr. Lalonde oversees clinic construction.



The African native is a willing patient.

A 64-YEAR-OLD dental surgeon from Rochester, N.Y., skidded his battered jungle jalopy around a muddy bend in East Africa and slammed on the brakes. The rain-soaked trail ahead was blocked solid by silent, spear-carrying natives.

Instead of reaching quickly for his gun, Dr. Paul S. Lalonde got out, walked forward with a grin, and shook hands all around. Then the leader of these fierce, handsome Masai tribesmen, addressing the dentist as *fundi* (big shot), told him what they were there for: every last man—there were more than 50 of them—had an agonizing toothache and wanted to have his face "put to sleep."

In the past seven years, this stocky former globe-trotter and big-game hunter has almost singlehandedly brought modern dentistry to 1,000,000 square miles of jungle and bush! He claims the only puzzle which Africa still holds for him is how they know he's coming.

"We have no telephones in the bush," he says, "and I seldom take the same route twice. That means they have to use the 'jungle telegraph' to keep track of me. But I suspect there's more to African communications than drumbeats. Even when there are no drums, I find my patients waiting as if by appointment at wide spots in the trail."

Dr. Lalonde is the only American licensed to practice dentistry in the heart of Africa. Since 1956, he has spent half