

MEDI-CALL

12TH GENERAL

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VOL I, NO 11

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Religious Services

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Father Reilly announces that Devotions for Good Friday will consist of Mass at 1250. Confession will be heard starting at 1800 on Holy Saturday for those wishing to make their Easter Duty.

Mass on Easter Sunday will be read at 0900 and again at 2115 hrs. All services will be held in Our Lady of Victory Chapel.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO HIM?

This question is asked quite often about the various men who have been transferred out of this unit or who have gone home. Here is some information on a few.

Former T/Sgt Herb Skinner is back home again in Indiana. He is now a civilian, and according to his pal, "Butch" Kotora, he has turned down 5 jobs and is doing exactly nothing. Herb was a member of the original 12th cadre; he was sent home last summer and received his medical discharge from Mines General Hospital, Chicago.

Cecil Bowman, who was rotated home last spring, is now attached to a hospital train unit working out of Camp Edward, Mass.

Wayne Overpeck, who transferrred to the Paratroops last summer, is now recovering from wounds received in action in Belgium. He has been awarded the Bronze Star, and is at present in a General Hospital in England.

Hank Williamson, Former 12th Blood Bank man, is now attending Infantry OCS in Italy.

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Palm Sunday service this morning at 1000 begins a week of services culminating in Easter sunrise service. Chaplain Sweet who has just arrived at the 12th will conduct tonite's service at 1900.

Monday and Tuesday at 1245 and Wednesday at 1915, services will be held in the Chapel. At 1930 on Thursday, Communion will be taken. Good Friday service at 1330 will contain the Story of the Cross.

Sunrise Service will be held for patients at the 7th Station, while transportation will be furnished for members of the command to the Service held downtown. The transportation leaves at 0600 hrs.

JEWISH SERVICES

Passover Seders will be held at the Victory Theatre on Wednesday at 1830 and at the 61st MI Depot on Thursday at 1830. Morning services will be held on Thursday and Friday at 0930 at the Victory Theatre in town. Transportation will be arranged thru the motor pool.

ROTATION QUOTATION

If you are lucky enough to be "assigned" T.D. in the good ole U.S. it will be for a 45 day minimum period instead of the former 30 day vacation. The furlough period was increased on 14 March 1945. The 12th's allotment of men is set by Pen base. This past month, 9 P.M. and one officer were sent on TD three T.M. were sent on rotation. These figures, however, may be raised or lowered in successive months.

NURSES GET ONCEOVER BY FEMALE FULL COLONEL

INSPECTION PARTY PLEASSED WITH 12TH

Colonel Florence Blanchfield, Superintendent of Nurses, inspected the nursing service of the 12th last Wednesday. She was accompanied by Major Vogel, chief of Army Physical Therapists, and Major Burns, chief of Army Dieticians. The trio left Washington two months ago and are inspecting all U. S. Army hospitals in Europe. Colonel Blanchfield spoke to the nurses of the 12th and 33rd General and the 7th Station in the theater of the 12th. She impressed upon them the many duties of the Army nurse and their responsibilities to their patients. She also remarked about the shortage of nurses in the service. "Colonel Blanchfield was very well pleased with the nursing service of the 12th", said Major Baltz, chief nurse.

BASEBALL FIELD NAMED FOR ADJUTANT

Ory Field has been selected as the name for the new baseball diamond by members of the Redbird team. The Major's name was selected because of his untiring effort and interest in obtaining from PBS permission to use the land, and in obtaining equipment to render it suitable for playing.

MORE NEW OFFICERS CHECK IN FOR DUTY

Capt. Charles L. Weston has joined this unit and has been assigned to the Surgical Service. He was formerly stationed with the 2nd Auxiliary Surgical Group. Another newcomer is Lieut. Mary T. McInerney, a dietician.

OLIVE McCUEN WEDS

BRITISH MAJOR

Olive McCuen, 12th General anesthetist from Ecorse, Michigan, was married to Major Charles Pepper of the British Army last Sunday in a formal ceremony by Chaplain Bells.

Mrs. Richard Waldman (nee Kohout) was matron of honor and Col. Sturgeon gave away the bride. Col. Cairnes ACC, was best man.

Miss McCuen wore a brocaded white satin dress, finger tip veil, and a white Juliette cap all of which were sent to her from the States. She carried a bouquet of Freesia and Lilies of the Valley.

BRIDE OBSERVES OLD CUSTOMS

The bride honored two old wedding superstitions for good luck. To wear "something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue", the bride wore a fancy blue garter decorated with rosettes which was made especially for the occasion by Evie Schultz. She borrowed a handkerchief from Miss Betty Bradford. Her outer clothes were new; some of the others were old. Another bow to tradition was made by the bride--she mailed home a piece of wedding cake.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the Officers' Club; after the reception, the couple left for a 10 day sightseeing trip in Rome.

Capt. Malcom B. Sweet, Presbyterian chaplain from St. Louis is on detached service with the 12th General. He came from the 182nd Sta. Hospital and will be permanently assigned to the 51st Medical Battalion.

MALE CALL

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

WHIRL IT ALL END?



ELECTRIC SHOCK TREATMENT

CURRENT NEWS



The 12th General was the first and for a long time the only hospital overseas to use electric shock therapy in the treatment of mental diseases. In early 1940, when this form of therapy was introduced in the States, Lt. Col. Boshes and his nurses began to use it at St. Luke's and Michael Reese hospitals in Chicago.

Shortly after the 12th was organized, the colonel requested equipment for electric therapy; it was delivered to Ft. Benjamin Harrison in September 1942 and our specialists demonstrated the technique at Billings General Hospital with startling results. One patient who hadn't talked for weeks began to speak a few hours after the treatment. Another who had refused food for weeks and who required tube-feeding ate spontaneously and promptly.

The machine was brought to Africa with the 12th and was put into use in February 1943 in old Wd 47. This was the first use overseas in the Army, and results were uniformly good. It was soon discovered that the treatment was good for those cases of very severe battle reactions who used to be called "shell shock", especially those cases who had proved to be resistant to all other types of treatment. 70% of all our battle patients cleared up in 48-72 hours even though some had retained the symptoms for months.

Of course, like any treatment, such as surgical operations, electric shock has its dangers and certain precautions must be observed. It is important also that the proper type of cases be selected. The method is useful in certain nervous states and useless in others. Ward men were trained in handling the patient before, during and after treatment. Particularly during treatment, special precautions are necessary to prevent injury to the patient. We

have been fortunate thus far, and in several thousand treatments have never had a fracture. This is to the credit of ward men like Dick Garber, Ed Borowiak, "T" Tinnanello, Charlie Hill, "Doc" Kivel, Oral Martin, Andy Krause, Jackie Tobolski, Joe Hoza and others who have been interested, loyal and who have learned their jobs well.

The men know their stuff and it is something to watch them undo a "wild man" who has been "lashed" to a litter with straps, ropes, and blankets by M.P.'s. Our men release him, prepare him for examination and treatment. Later they help the medical officer and nurse in the actual administration of the shock. In a few days, the wild, mute, food-refusing patient becomes a quiet cooperative fellow who fits into the ward routine nicely. Soon he can go out, play ball, and in general be well adjusted.

Electric shock therapy thus allows the NP service to run a "closed" ward with few personnel and no barbed wire or guards and enables the hospital to ship cases to the States easily. The 12th has never had to send a "restraint case" home. Every patient has embarked without holding or restraint and all were eating without help.

This type of treatment is not new to Italy - it was discovered by Professor Cerletti and Dr. Bini of the Department of Nervous and Mental Diseases of the University of Rome. The credit for its introduction as a method of treatment in MTOUSA hospitals, however, belongs to the 12th General. Our personnel demonstrated its effectiveness to Col. Shook of the MTOUSA Surgeon's Office in 1943 and he ordered machines similar to ours to be installed in other General hospitals, whose personnel were trained by the 12th in the use of the machine.

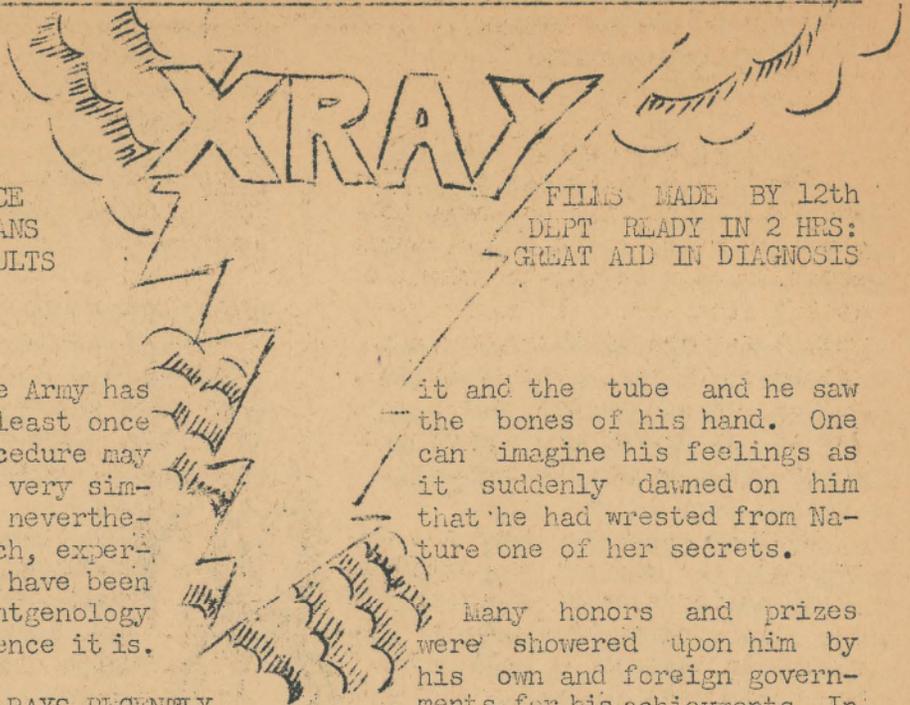
STUDY & EXPERIENCE
MAKE GOOD TECHNICIANS
AND YIELD GOOD RESULTS

Everyone in the Army has been "X-rayed" at least once and altho the procedure may have seemed to be very simple and painless, nevertheless, much research, experience and patience have been needed to make roentgenology the remarkable science it is.

ROENTGEN REVEALED RAYS RECENTLY

Only 50 years ago this science did not exist. In 1895, Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, a brilliant physicist and mathematician, discovered a type of radiant energy which would penetrate solids. He called this hitherto unknown type of radiation "X-rays". Many investigators before him paved the way for his discoveries by noting the phenomena that occurred when electrical discharges were passed thru vacuum tubes; while experimenting with such a tube entirely enclosed in black paper Roentgen made his discovery.

It had long been known that certain crystals, notably those of Barium Platinocyanide, would fluoresce and give off light in the presence of an energized vacuum tube. During his experiment, Roentgen had laid a piece of cardboard coated with this material, on a table several feet away. The material continued to fluoresce, even though the black paper around the tube prevented any light from passing out. Solid objects interposed between the tube and the cardboard cast shadows indicating that they obstructed the peculiar radiation passing thru the black paper. As Roentgen picked up the chemically-coated cardboard, his fingers became interposed between



FILMS MADE BY 12th
DEPT READY IN 2 HRS:
GREAT AID IN DIAGNOSIS

it and the tube and he saw the bones of his hand. One can imagine his feelings as it suddenly dawned on him that he had wrested from Nature one of her secrets.

Many honors and prizes were showered upon him by his own and foreign governments for his achievements. In 1901 he was awarded the Nobel prize in physics. Probably the greatest and most enduring honor accorded Roentgen was the universal application of his name to the rays he discovered, and to the science he founded. He died in 1923 after a brief illness.

X-RAY DEPT OPERATES EFFICIENTLY

Veteran members of this detachment are surprised to learn that, when they come in for x-ray their old films are still on file. Here is what happens to your request and your films when you report for an examination:

When you enter the X-ray office, your request is checked to see that all necessary information appears on it. Your name is entered on the day sheet and opposite your name is a number which will go on your request and on your films.

You will be assigned to one of five rooms, each of which specializes in a particular type of examination. After your examination is finished and your number and dog-tags have been stenciled on the film, you are free to leave; your film is taken to the darkroom where it is processed. Processing takes about two hours because the film must be developed, fixed, washed and dried. It is then sent to the roentgenologist to be "read".

(cont'd on page 8)

JAUNDICE AMONG THE ANCIENTS
TREATED BY RED BULLS;
YELLOW PARROTS;
MAGIC CHANTS

(The following is quoted from The Golden Bough by Sir James Fraser, and is an example of what Wds 11 and 12 might be going thru today if times were different.)

"The ancient Hindoos performed an elaborate ceremony to cure the symptoms of jaundice. Its main drift was to banish the yellow color to yellow creatures and yellow things such as the sun, to which it properly belongs and to procure for the patient a healthy red color from a living vigorous source, namely, a red bull. With this intention a priest would recite the following spell:

'Up to the sun shall go thy heartache and thy jaundice; in the color of the red bull do we envelop thee; We envelop thee red tints unto long life. May this person go unscathed and be free of yellow color! Into the parrots, into the thrush, do we put thy jaundice, and into the yellow wag-tail do we put thy jaundice!'

While uttering these words, the priest, in order to infuse rosy hues into his sallow patient, gave him water to sip which was mixed with the hair of a red bull. The sick man was also seated on the red bull and a piece of the bull's skin tied to him.

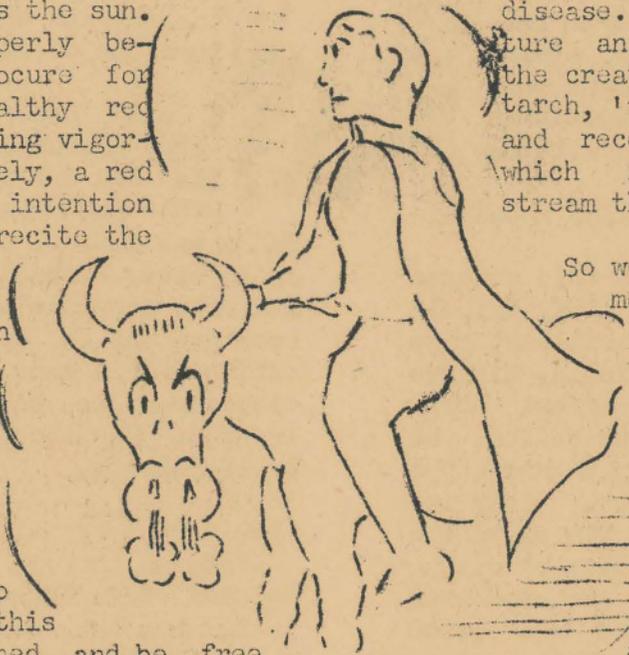
To eradicate the patient's yellow color, the priest first daubed him from head to foot with a yellow porridge made of tumeric or curcuma (a yellow plant), set him on a bed and then tied a parrot, a thrush, and a wagtail (all of them yellow) by means of a yellow string to the foot of the bed; the priest would next pour water over the patient to wash off the

yellow porridge, and, presumably, the jaundice. The yellow birds were expected to absorb any jaundice washed from the sick man.

Finally, by way of giving final bloom to the patient's complexion, hairs of the red bull, wrapped in gold leaf, were glued to his skin.

GOLDEN-EYED BIRD VALUED IN CURE

It was further believed by the ancients that if a person suffering from jaundice looked sharply at a bird called a stone-curlew, the person would be cured of the disease. 'Such is the nature and temperament of the creature,' says Plutarch, 'that it draws out and receives the malady which issues like a stream thru the eyesight.'



So well recognized among bird-fanciers was this valuable property of the stone-curlew, that when they had one of the birds for sale, they kept it carefully covered lest a jaundiced person look at it and be cured

for nothing. The virtue of the bird lay not in its color but in its large golden eye which drew out the yellow jaundice naturally.

Pliny tells of another, or perhaps the same bird, whose name meant the same as the word for 'jaundice' in the Greek language. If a jaundiced man saw this bird, the disease was supposed to leave him and slay the bird. Pliny also mentions a stone which was used to aid in curing jaundice because its hue resembled that of a jaundiced skin."

The above quotation indicates that jaundice is an old disease. Its present-day treatment, however, is new, in spite of the fact that Medical Supply has been approached regarding the requisitioning of red bulls and stone-curlews. (Med. Supply's answer: None are available in this area at present.)

REDBIRD SPORTS NEWS

BIRDS WIN FIRST EXHIBITION GAME

SOFTBALL TEAM TAKING FORM

SWAMP 1754th ENGRS. 27-2

March 20....After three weeks of infield and outfield drill and batting practice, the Redbirds dedicated Ory Field this evening by drubbing the 1754 Engrs, 27-2.

The Birds used 22 men during the game. The first nine were completely worn out from running around the bases after three innings so Manager Feese put in a completely new team to start the fourth. This second nine kept up the assault on the Engineers.

Prymicz started the game for the Redbirds and pitched three perfect innings, giving no passes no hits and no runs. Krause relieved Prymicz in the fourth - he was touched for a single in that inning and in the fifth, a walk, a sacrifice and two base knocks accounted for the Engrs' two runs. Thrasher pitched the last inning for the Redbirds and retired the side without trouble.

In the first inning, the Redbirds opened up on Perry. Malovany started the attack by beating out an infield hit. Kelly promptly sacrificed him to second. Perry hit Subjeck with a pitch; he then uncorked a wild pitch and when the Engr. catcher, Daniel, threw wild to third, Malovany scored. Sparr then doubled down the left-field line, Subjeck taking third.

McClaid rapped one to short and was safe when the first baseman dropped the throw, Subjeck scoring. Pupilava lifted a high

The Redbirds wish to thank the men of these departments for their cooperation in putting the diamond in playing condition:

Utilities

Enlisted Men's Club

Post Exchange

Motor Pool

Italian Serv Unit

Dispensary

The Little Reds' softball team has been working out on their new diamond at the northwest corner of Ory Field for the past few days. Both infield and outfield are shaping up nicely. But Manager Gleason has his pitching troubles. To date only one pitcher has reported. Another problem is the fact that the softball team lacks an umpire. Anyone interested in umpiring softball this summer contact Gleason at the Personnel Office.

fly to left- he was safe when the left fielder misjudged the ball, and Sparr scored easily. Oliphant then tripled down the right field line scoring McClaid and Pupilava. Mackowiak lifted a high long fly to left for the second out, Oliphant scoring after the catch. The first inning was finally ended by Prymicz who tapped out to the pitcher.

The Birds tallied three more times in the 2nd on walks issued to Kelly, Sparr and McClaid, Pupilava's single and the shortstop's error on Oliphant's grounder. In the 3rd inning, the Redbirds batted twice around, putting across 14 runs.

Wilson and Allen walked to start the Bird half of the 4th, after which Roseman lined a long double to left center field - but he was thrown out trying to stretch the hit into a triple. Lazarov and Deehr walked and Targo was safe when the Engr. catcher dropped a third strike. Lazarov and Deehr scored on Grimes' single to left to end the scoring for the game.

Oliphant led the Redbird attack with a triple and two singles in four trips to the plate batting in six runs. Ray Sparr led the parade across the plate by scoring four times and having a perfect day at bat with a double, two walks and having bit hit by a pitched ball in four appearances.

