



# The Weekly



12TH GENERAL HOSPITAL (US) APO 361

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Page 1.

## UNIT PAPER TO BE PUBLISHED

### CONTEST TO NAME PAPER OPENED

Most babies are not named until after they are born. So it is with this new entry into the G. I. Journalistic world. Conception, labor and birth are now history and the new product must have a name.

What's your suggestion?

Name contests are old as Hamer's rumors but they usually produce results. So the staff of this newspaper takes pride in opening a contest to name this publication.

Since only one (1) name is required, only one (1) grand prize will be awarded. That will be presented to the individual who can suggest a name better than anyone else. The Grand Prize will be one carton of Cigarettes donated by the Red Cross, one box of matches to light a few of them, one pair of used rubber gloves ("highsouvenir value"), and one can of Vienna sausage which was left

### A MESSAGE FROM COL. STURGEON

It is human nature for us to grow accustomed to our surroundings and take them for granted. Thus we never realized our great advantages while still in the "Land of the Free", but took sewage systems, the plumbing, the water supply, and the transportation systems as a matter of course, and only became interested in them when they suffered minor breakdowns.

Now we are part of a large organization. In fact there is no longer medical unit outside the continental limits of the United States. But each of us in our own sphere of that organization, take the rest of it for granted and soon come to feel that our sphere is the main part of the hospital, and the rest exists only to make our part function properly.

(Cont'd on page 5)

### Plans Made, Staff Needed

By the grace of the War Department, the approval of Headquarters, the provisions of Special Services and the hearty efforts of a nuclear staff, this, the first edition of your unit paper, is presented to you.

If present the plan is carried out, an issue will be published each Sunday. One copy of the paper will be printed for every five members of the Hospital - Census and Command.

Our purposes are these:

1. To present news of this organization as it pertains to us
2. To acquaint our patients with hospital routine, with our unit and our personnel.
3. To report noteworthy incidents of our area and short items of interest to soldiers.
4. To serve as a means of publishing the literary efforts of our patients, and our command.

# HISTORY REPEATED

Everything which comes into existence must have a beginning, and as each day becomes a yesterday, the events which took place in those by-gone hours become history. With the first edition of the 12th General Hospital paper, we wish to publish for the benefit of the many new members of the unit a few facts concerning the birth and the history of the organization.

The 12th General Hospital was organized July, 1916, at Northwestern Medical School, Chicago, Illinois. It served overseas during World War I as a unit of the A.E.F. and was then known as Base Hospital #12. It left the States May 24th, 1917, and reached England at Falmouth, and France at Boulogne; it arrived on June 11th, 1917, at Dannes-Camiers (Seine-Inférieure) where it operated until February 2nd, 1919. It returned to the U.S. on April 2nd, 1919, and was demobilized at Camp Grant, Illinois, on April 23rd of the same year.

## REORGANIZED FOR PRESENT WAR

The unit was reconstituted the 12th General Hospital in 1936 and was allotted to the VI Corps Area as an Organized Reserve Unit. On July 12th, 1940, the hospital was withdrawn from the reserves and made an inactive unit of the Regular Army.

On January 28th, 1942, it was activated under command of Major Clarence W. Hardy at Fort Custer, Michigan. On this date, some of the officers and enlisted men were sent from the 215th General Hospital to form the initial nucleus of the active unit.

Colonel John H. Sturgeon, the present commanding officer, assumed command on February 10th, 1942. During the next month, officers, nurses, and civilians of the affiliated Northwestern University Unit joined the organization. In March, recruits from

the Fort Custer Reception Center, together with the return of a few enlisted reserves, brought up the strength of the organization to its approved T/O.

September 1st, 1942, the unit moved to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. At this station, the basic and technical training of the enlisted personnel was continued by utilizing some of the facilities of the Station Hospital, Billings General Hospital, and the Medical Technicians' School.

## DEPARTS FOR FOREIGN DUTY

The unit was authorized to prepare itself for overseas movement on November 13th. It arrived on November 24th at its staging area, Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. On December 12th, the organization embarked from New York, made an uneventful trip across the pond, and reached Oran, Algeria, on December 26th, 1942. It was stationed at Ain-el-Turck where it functioned as a general hospital for a year.

On December 16th, the 12th departed from Ain-el-Turck, Africa, for Naples, Italy, where it stayed for six months. During this time, most of the personnel was on detached service with other hospitals in the Naples area. In the rumble of the Fifth Army had hardly ceased resounding thru the streets of Rome, then the 12th left Naples for the Eternal City where it operated until leaving for its present location, which, of course, remains a Military Secret.

## HOSPITAL GETS

SHEEP CHEAP

Hospital officials may have to go into a huddle to decide whether the newest acquisition of the unit should be included in the inventory of Quartermaster, Medical Supply, or be listed as native help in the Personnel Dept.

The item causing the consternation is a sheep which has been attached to the Laboratory Staff for Temporary Duty, Rations, and Quarters.

It all started when it was decided to run Wassermann tests at this hospital. Sheep blood cells are required for this test, and a sheep is required for the blood.

For several weeks, Captain Hugh (NMI) Wilson of the laboratory staff made trips into the surrounding countryside with Gildo Lillio as driver and interpreter to secure sheep's blood. Always there was a little talk with the farmer to explain the purpose of the visit, then the exchange of a candy bar, etc., for the privilege of the bleeding. Being practical minded, and often winded from chasing the sheep, Captain Wilson decided that the trip was too much effort for the results.

## BRING HOME THE MEAT

The driver and the lab officer went into a huddle to see about obtaining a sheep for constant use. Using all the diplomacy and tact, for which the two are already well known, they inquired about purchasing an animal. The result is that the Italian farmer offered the use of a sheep for as long as it is needed at no cost.

## NO PAINING

FROM TRAINING

First Sergeant Wroblewski announces that numerous men of this outfit have told him they don't mind drilling for an hour or two each week—in fact, he says 'They say they even enjoy it'.

Whether this is the general opinion of the men or not is a subject that would make a poor debate, but in the army, training is no take-it-or-leave-it affair. It is taken.

P.B.S. recently issued this publication:

'The training objective of medical units in this Base Section is the attainment of operational efficiency in support of operations. The training program is designed to improve the alertness, discipline, physical condition, soldierly appearance, and morale of personnel in the organization. In order to effect a policy which will accomplish the foregoing objective, a minimum of six (6) hrs per week (one hour of which will be for orientation training) will be devoted to military training.'

As a result, the Detachment Office organized the training schedule with which the N.M. are now familiar. Sgt. 'Ray' says that the second week's drilling showed much improvement over that of the first.

The Seventh Station Hospital, which will also use the blood, has agreed to quarter the animal in an animal pen located on their area. Thus far, the sheep has no name. Anyone having suggestions for an appropriate name for the ewe, contact Captain Wilson.

WHY A NEWSPAPER?

When dawn first broke and  
 started the slime  
 Of ageless sluggish seas,  
 Its faltering light enthralled  
 a mite  
 Who fell upon his knees.

With Lilliputian whisper his  
 rapture thrilled  
 The brackish bound of brine,  
 And soon enamoured, where'er  
 they fared,  
 The others of his kind.

As eons passed and lands grew up  
 Among the waste of waters,  
 The mites could talk--  
 or so they thought--  
 And this they taught their  
 daughters.

These last were women,  
 so they left  
 Their aqueous surroundings;  
 And on the land they found  
 their man--  
 So humans had their foundings.

But even then the ladies talked  
 and talked,  
 And males were in a plight;  
 They dared not speak for they  
 were weak,  
 And thus they learned to write.

So while the women chattered and  
 filled the air  
 With verbose fertile vapor,  
 The men were still but had  
 \ \ their fill  
 Because they talked on paper.

Then a man with chattering  
 spouse thought  
 Her talk eternal;  
 He built, we guess, a  
 printing press,  
 And hid behind his journal.

This device became widespread  
 and used  
 By many martyred males;  
 And that, kiddies, is as far as  
 this story goes--  
 Now go to sleep before I beat  
 Your brains out.

A Poem: By H.W.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Protestant Services  
 E.E.Bells, Ch.

Sunday: Morning Service, 1000 hrs.  
 Vesper Service, 1900 hrs.  
 Wednesday: Service Men's Christian  
 League 1900 hrs.

Catholic Services  
 F.B.Reilly, Ch.

Sunday & Holy Days:  
 Mass 0900 and 1915 hrs.  
 Weekdays:  
 Mon., Wed., & Fri. 0715 hrs.  
 Tue., Thurs & Sat 1850 hrs.  
 Confession: Sat. 1800 hrs.

Jewish Services  
 H.Ribner, Ch

Friday: 1930 hrs.

SPECIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES  
(Jan 11-20)

Monday : Movie----'PIN-UP GIRL'  
 with Betty Grable,  
 Tuesday : To Be Announced,  
 Wednesday: Movie--To Be Announced  
 Thursday : Movie-'SARATOGA TRUNK'  
 with Ingrid Bergman &  
 Gary Cooper,  
 Friday : To Be Announced,  
 Saturday : To Be Announced.

(Movies are shown at 1400 hrs for  
 patients and at 1900 hrs for duty  
 personnel.)

Subject for next Thursday's  
 Information & Education lecture will  
 be a discussion of the winning  
 essays submitted by soldiers in the  
 recent Army contest "Why I Fight".

Con't from page 1

## MESSAGE FROM G.O.

A large part of this feeling is due to the fact that we do not know the work the other section of the hospital is doing. Someone has said that more battles are lost thru lack of information than from any other single cause. This paper published by and for this unit only will have served one of its main purposes if it helps acquaint each department with the work of the others; if it helps us get the other fellows viewpoint; if we share our experiences, our jokes, and our ideas for improvement.

Let us try to see the other fellow's side, and at the same time give him a little of ours. Make this paper your paper!

Con't from page 1

## CONTEST TO NAME PAPER

connected with the 12th. Patients, Enlisted Men, Officers and Nurses.

2. Submit as many entries as you wish.

3. Write your name and department with each suggestion and leave the slip in the contest boxes which will be located at the Detachment Mess Hall, the Red Cross and at the Special Services Office.

4. Contest will close at midnight Thursday, 18 January.

The decision of the Judges will be final. The judges will be the members of the editorial staff. In case the winning name is suggested by two or more contestants, the person holding the lowest rank will be declared the winner.

## WANTED!!

Bicycles, with or without tires to travel from Ward 11 and 12 to Medical Supply. See Murray Tattershall, Charlie Decker, or Leslie Crawford.

## SLEEPING BAGS

MAKE MANY

SAD SAGAS

## Instructions For Use

The Sleeping Bag, hereinafter referred to as "Bag, Sleeping", is, as the name implies, a bag for sleeping. Beyond the name, however, it is hard to say that the bag has nothing whatsoever to do with sleeping. Assuming you are now spending your nights in a sleeping bag (and being in Italy, we doubt that you can find a better place) the following instructions might be of some use:

1. Zip shut your bag before getting into it.
2. Cut bottom from bag and enter thru opening.
3. Phone Charge of Quarters the night before and tell him at what time you wish to be extricated for Reveille.
4. The bag can be rolled up into a rather serviceable pillow.
5. Do not threaten the Supply Sergeant---you cannot get your comforter back.

Con't from page 1

## PLANS MADE; STAFF NEEDED

The existence of this paper depends upon the interest shown by the members of the unit. Without your aid, it cannot continue.

To those of you, be you patient, enlisted man, officer or nurse, who would like to work on our staff, we say: Speak up and be welcomed; to those who have a gripe or comment: Send us a letter for publication; to those who can sketch, rhyme or storywrite: Step forward.

By our efforts we hope to make this now nameless sheet, a paper of the 12th, by the 12th and for the 12th.

UNIT WEEKLY  
12th General Hospital

LEGHORN  
(The City of)

Col. John H. Sturgeon, M.C.,  
Commanding Officer

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Published every Sunday thru the  
Office of Information & Education,

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I have been asked to write a few words about Leghorn. Leghorn, as you probably know is the first town you pass thru on the road to Rome. There are Leghorn chickens and there are Leghorn hats, neither of which has any thing at all to do with the City of Leghorn. This proves that Leghorn chickens and Leghorn straw hats are exceedingly intelligent. If you have read Anthony Adverse, you may recall that Tony was born in Leghorn. Fortunately, young Adverse was able to leave town as soon as he could walk. This is highly recommended. Next week I shall write something about Lucca.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

Have you something you want to trade, buy, or sell? Place an ad with your newspaper. Results are not guaranteed. Drop your ad at the Information and Education office, or at the Laboratory.

Rates: No charge for first column inch. Cost progresses geometrically for each additional inch. It pays to advertise!

HELP WANTED

Man needed to serve as Horrible Example at liquor lecture. First three graders only, need apply.

Individuals to reroll unlimited supply of slightly used red tape. Apply in person to the nearest Army office. Come prepared to work - Long hours but high pay. Mangiare (lunch only) included.

\* \* \* \*

WILL SWAP

URGENT: Will trade one pair of recently excised, slightly used tonsils for services of plumber to modernize foot locker -- contact "Butch" Ketcher.

MUST WRITE TO NEW GIRL FRIEND in la Roma... Will swap nine pictures of beautiful women (recently wid) for one Italian style typewriter. Call Det. Office; ask for "Lemon".

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

-----  
HAVE YOU BLOWN  
YOUR TOP??

I replace them!  
Brains Explored;  
Pipes Traced.

THE ROCK SHOP

Gems polished while  
I wait...  
Kidney & Gallstones  
Cleaned & Set!

PENT MFG. COMPANY

Radios      Death Rays  
Lights  
"If volt for me is watt  
I want!"

CRANIAL CONSULT CORP.,

"The Dark Night"  
Maj. Martin, Prop.

H. A. Davenport, P. op.

\* \* \* \*

STOVES A SPECIALTY...

"Get in the apartment  
with a down draft"  
(Asbestos clothing free)



# SPORTS



## Redbirds Show Good Record

## SQUAD WINS CLOSE GAME

### LONG HISTORY OF VICTORIES

12th General Hospital Red Birds have returned to the courts this season with what appears to be another excellent basketball team. With little or no practice, they have given a good account of themselves in their first two games. They beat the strong 33rd General Hospital team and dropped a close one to the 114th Station Hospital by the score of 26 to 21.

The Red Birds have an impressive record on the basketball courts. In 1942 they started in grand style by winning the Fort Custer post championship. In Africa in 1943 the 12th had no team but last year they entered the Tyrrhenian basketball tournament and again with no previous practice, went to the quarterfinals in a field of more than 250 teams.

The boys are handicapped by lack of a gym for practice at the present, but Manager Bill Moerman is making arrangements for use of a gym.

With a few practice sessions under their belt we can look forward to a string of victories for the 12th General boys.

### BOX SCORE

12th General Hospital		G	F	Tot
FOLEY	(RF)	4	3	7
BROWN	(RF)	0	0	0
McCLAID	(LF)	6	1	7
WILSON	(LF)	0	0	0
McGRAW	(C)	4	1	5
SANFORD	(C)	2	0	2
PAVELKA	(RG)	0	0	0
MOERMAN	(RG)	2	0	2
KELLEY	(RG)	4	2	6
CLIPHANT	(LG)	6	0	6
		<u>28</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>35</u>

Jan 11...Our Redbirds returned to their winning ways this evening by defeating the 603rd Ord team 35-33 in a thrilling battle.

The 12th started fast with baskets by Foley, McClaid, and McGraw to give them a 6-0 lead. A free throw by Tackett and a basket by Todd made the score 6-3 at the end of the first quarter.

The Ordnance boys outscored us in the second quarter 6-4 and the half ended with the 12th hanging on to a one point lead. In the third quarter the opposition again went to work. With Todd and Alford leading the attack, they made 16 points to take a 25 - 19 advantage.

Kelley came into the game at the start of the final period and quickly dropped in a basket. Then the 12th Boys rang up 12 points at the same time holding the ord team to six points, to tie the score at 31 - 31.

In the overtime, Kelley made a set shot, but Todd proceeded to even the score with his seventh basket of the game. With two minutes left, a double foul was called on Foley and Pedler. Foley arched the ball cleanly thru the hoop while Pedler missed his shot. Then with twenty seconds to play, McClaid was fouled. He made the throw good to finish the game.

603rd Ordnance		G	F	Tot
TACKETT	(RF)	4	1	5
PEDLER	(LF)	2	0	2
ALFORD	(C)	10	0	10
HORNING	(C)	0	0	0
PALLER	(RG)	2	0	2
TODD	(LG)	14	0	14
		<u>32</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>33</u>

## EXTRA PERIOD

## WINS HEARTBREAKER

BOTH TEAMS SHOW  
BRILLIANT STYLE

Jan. 9... Our Officers' basketball team fought hard in a close game with the 114th Station Officers, and only an overtime period was able to conquer them. They began the game with a fast offensive and were ten points ahead at the end of the first quarter.

In the second period, the opposition made a supreme effort to overcome that lead. Sparked by Lee and Hampton, they were able to cut it to four points. 12th Officers were able to ring in only two field goals as compared to nine in the first.

Two determined teams took the floor for the second half, and waged a see-saw battle that had the crowd it's feet. With the 114th trailing by a single point Capt. W. Lee was awarded a foul shot. He let fly, and the sphere swished thru the net to tie the score at 27 all.

The fourth quarter saw a total of only three points to each team. In the two-minute overtime Hampton sank a long field goal to make the score 32 - 30. Capt. Baber's brilliant playing accounted for 13 of the 12th's points, while Hampton paced the winners with an equal amount.

BOX SCORES

12th Gen Officers		FG	FP	Tot
OWENS	(F)	3	0	6
BABER	(F)	6	1	13
DROWNWELLER	(C)	1	1	3
LOUNSBURY	(G)	2	0	4
ROST	(G)	2	0	4
		15	2	30

114th Sta. Officers

LEE (Capt.)	(F)	3	1	7
LOURE	(F)	5	0	10
HAMPTON	(C)	6	1	13
LEE (Lt.)	(G)	1	0	2
JONES	(G)	0	0	0
		15	2	32

12th GEN. YIELDS  
IN TIGHT CLASH

## OPPONENT'S 13th STRAIGHT WIN

Jan. 9... Tip-off at center, Oliphant grabs the ball, throws it to McCraw, who shoots: the 12th General Redbirds are ahead, 2-0. That was how last night's game with the 114th Station began. In a low scoring first half that lead was never overtaken. The floor play was rough and both of the teams missed heartbreaking shots. The score at the end of the half was 11 - 5.

In the third period, however, we made no score, while the enemy, sparked by Pascall and Hall brought the score to 13 - 12. As the final period began, Foley made a breath-taking set shot, and the 12th regained its lead. The McCraw-Oliphant combination scored again as did Foley to up our total to 17.

The 114th, showing some of the smoothness which had accounted for 12 straight wins prior to the game last night, began a counter-offensive. Sowder & Co. dumped in six markers to forge ahead 18-17; then made two more field goals. The Redbirds were not to go down without a fight, however. With McClaid's sparkling floor play setting the stage, Kelley and McClaid rang in a pair of close-ups to narrow the 114th's lead to one point. But the golden chance was missed, and two additional tallies by the 114th put the contest on ice, 26-21.

RED BIRDS SCHEDULE

Jan. 14	U.S. 874 Sig.
Jan. 15	391st Ord.
Jan. 19	526th Fighter Sq.
Jan. 20	U.S. 320 Sec. Co., Hq.