

The Caduceus

"DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF
WORLD WIDE JUSTICE"

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listed Personnel of the Base Hospital,
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NOT WEARY YET

"When will The Caduceus stop?" is a question put to our staff members several times each day since the order to clear the camp was announced.

The base hospital is not affected by the order to raze the camp. There is no intention of stopping The Caduceus during the time the hospital functions. The arrival of overseas wounded with their need of The Caduceus cheer; the call for all medical men to remain cheerfully at their tasks of healing and the requests for publication of official statements from Washington makes the continued mission of The Caduceus most apparent.

REAL SWEETHEARTS

EDITORIAL FROM "OVER THERE" ON "THE GIRLS BACK HOME"

"Give us a square deal" begs an editorial in one of our comrade medical magazines, The Caduceus, now being put out by the Vichy hospital center, at Allier, France. The soldier editor sets out that the sweetheart problem of the army is at least a two sided affair and that fidelity is not limited to "The Girls Back Home." His editorial follows:

"THE GIRLS BACK HOME"

We're tired of picking up the American dailies with their squibe about Yanks falling in love with the French mademoiselles. It's all a great big bug-a-boo and shouldn't be flashed before those whole-souled young women who are counting the days until taps are blown for the Job on Germany. The records tell of very few of the boys requesting official sanction for marriage in France. It's about time they were placed in the right light with the girls back home.

The American dailies are continually harping on our duty to the "girl" back home. They never print the stories of the sweethearts who have become the wives of the stay-at-homes. They never tell us of the girls—and there are many of them who forget their soldier lovers before the transport reached the danger zone. The bud of romance is being blighted on the other side, not here.

There's hardly a day that we don't get the truth of the matter. The fellow will tell how Paulette or Doris or Ruth was led to the altar.

"Remember him, the fellow who claimed exemption because he worried in a munition factory?" he'll ask. Yes! I guess he fell in right at the station I got off."

But then we can't forget the real sweethearts who will be waiting with open arms. They'll never know how much their letters counted over here. Only the boys themselves know and they're sympathizing with their pals who don't. It must be a grand and glorious feeling to know you've got a REAL sweetheart back home.

TWENTY MINUTE SERVICE.

Twenty minute car service from Liberty Park to Charlotte has returned and we are glad. Since we nearly always just miss one car it is much better to wait but 15 minutes than it was to linger 35 minutes.

Ingenuity of the Southern Public Utilities has figured out a way whereby the twenty minute service is cheaper for them than was the forty minute schedule. The Liberty Park car only runs to Lakewood and passengers are transferred to the Hoskins Belmont car. We are not peeved because the S. P. U. is saving money and we can not worry about the transfer if the twenty minute service continues.

THEY SHOULD WORRY

Pay call, in bugle music that thrills us all, rings along the company street once a month. It is the melodious promise of our allotted stipend for loyalty, bravery and diligence in the uncertain service of glory or death under the battle flags of democracy.

In the light of the war-made scale our pay is no flattering bonus for the military labor we perform but it is hallowed to us as the patriotic contribution of both the rich and poor of a great people who have given without stint of their men and savings for the perpetuation of an ideal.

So, when we take our wage each month, in crisp new bills and a sprinkle of little silver coins, we feel again the inspiration to "carry on" for the brave folk, who have shown by their willingness to be self-taxed, that they will endure with us to the end of our justice-called mission and our heart leaps anew in the promise of finer days to come.

But while we serve, through the weeks that lead to the monthly pay call, there are forces which are laboring to devise ways and means of extracting from us the value of those crisp bills and little silver coins.

One way of getting a soldier's money is through the sale of articles military. The value of a part of this class of goods is in the fact that it can be sold to soldiers. It's lure is often in its colorful tone and sparkle.

An excuse for the existence of a portion of the military gegaws, which are displayed in every camp-bordered city, we suppose, is in the government orders to the effect that certain insignias are to be worn for specific service rendered or to denote the destinies of the uncontrollable fates of army consignment.

We can understand that these military supply merchants might be in a position to patriotically help the soldiers to obtain the proper articles at a reasonable price. However, it sometimes occurs that the war-time conscience of such self-appointed dealers is perturbed by no greater qualm at the sale of improper insignias than they are about charging reasonable prices.

Apparently there are those who are eager to sell any sort of military trapping to any soldier as long as the fellow in uniform has the price.

There have been cases when an abundance of red hat cords in the stock of military dealers caused scores of infantry recruits to wander forth with hats entwined by crimson cords. A goodly supply of service bars for over-sea activities and a shortage of the proper red, white and blue bars for service "over here" no doubt has a bearing upon the show of many of the unwarranted oversea bars on the coats of our comrades.

The silver and gold stars, meant to be extra markers for those who volunteered for service, have not been authorized and may never be sanctioned. But as a preparedness measure many of the stars were sent to military merchants, even in Charlotte. Soldiers have been told, by those who keep such wares, that they can wear the stars. Accordingly the stars have appeared. More work has come to the military police. Men in uniform have been embarrassed by being stopped on the street and asked to comply with army regulations by removing a part of their apparel.

Of course it is the soldier's hard luck. He should not have purchased the recommended goods. "We should worry" is the attitude of those who must pay rent and must pay a little something for stripes and gilded stars.

No remedy? An effective cure for stores and eating houses improperly conducted is a sentry before the door for a few days. Hotels have been eager to meet the army demands for proper regulation when the need of such precaution was made apparent. There was a day when people thought that the ties between the soldier and the segregated district could not be broken. It has been established that the army can regulate when it once sets in to protect the rights of its body.

There is little difference between robbery and the sale of improper military trappings to soldiers who are wilfully misinformed. That form of financial deception has amounted to sums and embarrassments to such an extent that somebody should worry about setting the soldier boy aright when he spends a part of his patriot's wage.