

Army Stresses Realism



HIGH HURDLES, ARMY STYLE—Soldiers in basic training at Camp Carson, Colo., armed with rifles and fixed bayonets, scale a log barrier in a mock attack.

Washington. — The exhausted, dirty soldier was weeping when brought into the battalion surgeon's tent near a frontline sector. "I'm sick, doc," he said. "I can't go on, you've got to get me out of here!"

A day later that same man was returned to active combat duty. Cold-blooded?

Far from it. The return of this soldier just a few hours after he seemed incapable of doing his job is a tribute to the skillful treatment by Army psychiatrists.

Three Army psychiatrists at Walter Reed Army Medical Center speak with experience of Korean service behind them when they urge training of battalion surgeons in proper and prompt treatment of combat exhaustion cases.

Major Thomas T. Glasscock stressed that front line medics must be able to decide which are incapacitating mental difficulties and which are not.

"The important thing," he said, "is that these men be prepared to give the treatment at once. In this way, the number of men lost because of combat exhaustion can be cut down even further than we have been able to reduce it to date."

"We found that when the battalion surgeons could kindly but firmly deal with fear reaction and combat anxiety cases, most of the men could be brought to re-acquire their confidence and control."

Major Dermott A. P. Smith, Major Richard L. Conde and Glasscock believe that the further from his unit the patient is, the weaker are those group support elements which enable him to tolerate combat conditions.

According to Conde, when treatment at the battalion aid station shows the man that in most cases he has no real physical disability, and an attempt is made to understand emotional causes for his discomfort and necessity for continued effort in spite of his discomfort, the neuropsychiatric rate is cut substantially.

"A man has more time to consider the case from a strictly individual standpoint the further he is from the combat zone," says Conde. "Get him back where the discomforts and perils of combat seem remote and far away, and he'll convince himself that he can't go back."

High praise for "home-made" therapy applied by medical corpsmen assigned to them was voiced by all three psychiatrists.

Conde credited them with "setting the whole stage" for therapy. "These men put up and dismantle the tents, keep the fires going, administer medication and do administrative work, besides countless other jobs. They organize games and work details to keep the patients occupied and busy," said Conde.

Smith said they regularly held meetings with the corpsmen who had been on duty during the officers' off hours. Their reports on attitudes and savings of the men in that time were valuable guides to methods of treatment, he said.

Smith and Conde underlined importance of morale factors—dry socks, regular mail, hot food when

possible, etc. — in keeping men capable of performing active combat duties without becoming genuine or supposed combat exhaustion cases.

"Neuropsychiatric cases in a crack infantry division with good morale may be less than in a civilian group of comparable size," said Conde.

The psychiatrists further agree that many of the cases they handled had civilian backgrounds leading to emotional instability. Rarely, they said, did a man who had a background of good emotional adjustment have to be evacuated for combat exhaustion.

"There are many reasons why a man may suffer from combat exhaustion," said Smith. "It is found that treatment of these conditions at the earliest possible moment after occurrence has resulted in the highest recovery rate."

The Law Is Good, But No Money

Raleigh (AP)—Part of the fine print in a new North Carolina law setting up a parole board states:

"Upon release of any prisoner upon parole, the . . . warden of the institution shall provide the prisoner with suitable clothing and, if needed, an amount of money sufficient to purchase transportation to the place within the state where the prisoner is to reside."

The law adds: "The Board of Paroles may, in its discretion, provide that the prisoner shall . . . receive a sum of money not to exceed \$25." The joker, apparently overlooked by the General Assembly, is that nobody knows who is supposed to provide the pocket change for the parolees.

It is believed that the first use of the zero in arithmetic notation was in India some time before the 9th century.

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Old Tree Killed By Elm Disease

Lenox, Mass. — (AP) — The Dutch Elm disease has destroyed one of America's oldest and largest elms which was growing in Massachusetts' Berkshire hills when it was populated only by Indians.

The 111-foot tree, estimated to have been 300 years old, had towered above Elm Court, a mansion built in 1887 by W. D. Sloane, New York millionaire. It was believed locally to have been the first American tree protected by lightning rods.

Fuses in grounded circuits in the lightning rod system were blown out three times by lightning during the 21 years they were in place.

Eight feet in diameter at the base, the old tree had a spread of 164 feet in its hey-day.

Our pastor and family, the Rev. and Mrs. Wingate Hansley, moved here Friday afternoon. We are glad to have them in our community. He will be fulltime pastor here for the coming year.

Luther Lewis, jr., seems to be improving rapidly after breaking his collarbone two weeks ago.

The Rev. W. E. Anderson of Morehead City spent the weekend here and attended the union meeting Saturday and the Sunday school convention Sunday. He had a nice time both days.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Hill and children and some of the younger folk from here went to Merrimon Saturday night to Mr. and Mrs. Pete Becton's weiner roast.

Miss Pearl Mason spent the weekend in Beaufort with Mrs. Charlie Glover.

Mr. Paul Cahoon took his wife to Chapel Hill Monday to a nerve specialist for treatment. She has been sick for a long time.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Tosto and daughter, Wilma Lee, were dinner guests Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Wallace.

Mrs. Ivy Pittman and Mrs. Tom Tosto went to Beaufort Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Courtney of Chocowinity arrived Sunday afternoon to see her mother. Mrs. Courtney and daughter, Bernice, stayed, and Mr. Courtney returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon and daughter, Sharon Sue, of New Bern spent Saturday night and Sunday morning with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon.

Mr. George Norman and daughter, Wanda, of Oriental, came Thursday afternoon to see her grandmother, Mrs. Nannie Jane Pittman, and great grandmother, Mrs. Lizzie Tosto.

The Rev. Garris Gaskill of Sea Level will preach here next Sunday morning and night. The singing convention will be Sunday afternoon at 2:30 and everyone is invited to attend.

What Goes Up Doesn't Necessarily Come Down

Denver (AP)—So what goes up must come down, eh? Just try telling that to a balky horse, says Donald Dean, 23, of Denver.

Dean borrowed a horse from a friend and rode to the top of Table Mountain near Golden, west of Denver. But when he started down, the horse apparently decided the going was too steep and refused to

budget. So Dean built a fire and tried to keep warm during the night until searcher reached him the next morning. The other horses coaxed Dean's steed into making the descent.

European-Born "Yankees" — If you think Connecticut is the home of the Yankee — The largest element among the foreign born in this state, according to latest census tabulations, is the Italian-born group, of which New Haven has the largest number. Second is the Polish group, with New Britain having more than any other Nutmeg city. Third are those of Canadian origin, principally French-speaking, of whom there are more in Hartford than in any other city in the state.

Neighbors Hold Picnic To Celebrate Paving

Dallas, Texas (AP)—About 50 neighbors celebrated the completion of paving on Bowling Green ave. here with a picnic spread on tables set up in the middle of the street.

"Just a general get-together before our street was opened officially," said John T. Johnson. "Nice to get to know one another, you know. Of course, it was all thought up by the women out this way."



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for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for using the United States mails to spread false and malicious information against K. W. Wright.

Persons having clues to the identity of Mr. Wright's defamer are asked to contact either Sheriff Gehrman Holland or Mr. Wright.

(signed) K. W. Wright