



NEW BUILDING AT CAMP PURNELL

Rushed to Completion in One Day by Patriotic Carpenters from Fort McHenry. Supper Served in Building. Speeches by Col. Purnell, Capts. Boatman and Hockman.

In spite of the rain which continued practically all afternoon, last Sunday was a day of great activity at Camp Purnell, the rest camp for convalescent sick and wounded oversea soldiers. The camp was invaded by nearly sixty carpenters and workmen of the J. Henry Miller Construction Co. who patriotically gave their services and devoted the day to the erection of a splendid frame building which is to be used for recreation and other general purposes, and which fills a long felt want at the Camp.

The start was made from Fort McHenry about eight in the morning, the sight-seeing wagon recently purchased being used to convey most of the men to the Camp. Arriving there they lost no time in making the chips fly, and the shores of the Severn River soon re-echoed with the sound of busy hammers and saws, as all material was on hand in advance and all plans prepared with certainty. Working under the direction of Captain Hockman, the Construction Quartermaster at Fort McHenry, the men soon had the foundation ready, and it was a source of amazement to those not acquainted with the mysteries of construction work, to see the way in which the building grew in size and form, under the treatment by such expert hands. With skilful precision the whole job moved along at a rapid rate. There were no delays, no questions asked; and nothing but progress was in order. It was a splendid example of expert workmanship, and even the rain did not halt operations.

By five o'clock in the afternoon the building was completed, painted and occupied, and supper was being enjoyed within it by the workmen and some of the officers from the Fort. The structure is forty feet long, twenty feet wide, twelve feet high, with double floor, and is covered with rubberoid. It will be very useful and comfortable and highly appreciated by the men at the Camp.

After supper Lieut.-Col. H. S. Purnell, the Commanding Officer at Fort McHenry, made a few brief remarks in which he thanked the workmen most heartily for their splendid assistance in devoting their Sunday to such worthy and patriotic work, and assured them that it was such a spirit

that was doing so much to win the war. Captain Hockman, the Construction Quartermaster, also thanked the men in behalf of the Government.

The painting was done by John T. Hazard and the following workmen of the J. Henry Miller Co. did the other work:

(EVERY MAN A FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN BOND HOLDER)

E. R. Wilhelm, C. L. Barrett, Geo. Rehm, James W. Towers, Daniel Channey, W. K. Elliott, H. M. Dunn, F. B. Sisson, O. R. Dorsey, J. Kircher, Chas. Shenbrot, W. Towers, A. P. Rice, Henry W. Danc, Ross T. Hamlin, Frank W. Jenkins, W. S. Harris, C. H. Towers, F. E. Wood, Thos. E. Watts, Geo. P. Schad, Jacob Gargon, B. Shipley, Louis Klein, Geo. E. Shanck, H. B. Williams, Thos. Callis, Charles E. Geiselman, C. A. Monmonier, W. H. Frick, J. C. Golden, John Michalman, Charles M. Lehmann, Homer Lavoie, Chas. A. Brooks, W. P. Fisher, Harry Cole, John A. Muth, Albert C. Yeakel, Geo. N. Durr, B. Sanders, W. A. Wolf, E. S. Sewell, L. C. Brooks, A. G. Edler, H. N. Yingling, Geo. A. Sisson, A. Woodward, C. H. Mattingley, H. N. Dunn, W. T. Kirkbride, Geo. M. Rehn, Harry H. Cowman, Walter W. Finley, Charles Mitchell, Capt. S. J. Boatman, Capt. M. C. Hockman.

THE LIBERTY LOAN

Our oversea men who went out on the Liberty Loan Drive are practically all back again from their month's active furlough. They report, and Washington reports, a successful series of meetings wherever they went thruout the country. The men were sent in groups to a leading city in a certain state and from there went out individually on drives with some speaker, usually a prominent public man, with whom they were assigned. The men report some strenuous days. Sometimes they appeared at as many as eight meetings between morning and evening. The results of their work are evident, however, in the splendid returns made for the loan in the localities they visited. The "flu" epidemic cut into the last week's work rather seriously, for the ban was placed upon public gatherings in many cities where the boys were working.

PROMOTIONS IN CORPS

Large Number of Detachment Men Receive Warrants. Congratulations All.

The following promotions were made last Wednesday in the Medical Detachment at Fort McHenry.

To be sergeants first class: Sergeants George F. Gaul, John F. O'Brien, Thomas E. O'Connell, John S. Wiles and Corporal John K. Hamilton.

To be sergeants: Corporals Charles Besche, Walter Brenton, Fred. R. Blanchard, Emanuel Kohner, Karl L. Loose, Eugene G. McFee, William A. Miller, Julius Cflit, Charles J. Parsley, Charles E. Waggner and Vernon J. White.

To be corporals: Privates First Class John D. Campbell, George E. Carlson, Myer Friedman, Frank Jefferson, Benjamin Koplovitz, Emerson L. McCoy, George L. Mitchell, Howard E. Shawker, Bernard F. Storck and Ernest G. Weaver.

To be privates first-class: Privates Tobias Detsel, Sigfried Olson, Edw. L. Meister, Doc V. Denton, Claude E. Black, Harry E. Brown, Mark S. DeHuff, Jacob Goldberg, John F. Donahue, C. I. Swann, Joe Prebezewski, John E. Koester, Adolph Eberding, Perry W. Freshwater, Henry Gordon, Raymond W. Hacker, Edgar H. Jaquess, James B. Kauffman, Frank J. Renchan, Henry R. Rovelstad, Wm. A. Webb, Howard Davis, Joseph Marcellius, Luigi Acqua, Walter L. Glanville, Samuel C. Johnson, Melvin J. Brooks, Frederick S. Vetra.

To be nurses: Privates First Class Walter H. Curtis, Wallace J. Dennee, Edward J. Fagan, Albert K. French, August Honerkamp, Reginald E. Pattey, Benjamin F. Shoemaker and Jos. Sussman.

To be cook: Private Ray E. Smith.

Probably there are some men at the Fort who have not as yet met the Knights of Columbus Secretary, Mr. Leo J. Lanahan, popularly known to some of the wards as "Jack." His office is now in the Recreation Hall.

Sergeant 1st Class John L. D. Streater and Sergeant W. J. Willis, of the Q. M. left yesterday for Camp Hancock, Ga., to enter the Machine Gun Officers' Training School.

Every line in this magazine is patented. But we love to see ourselves quoted. Just say, "From the Fort McHenry TROUBLE BUSTER."

THE TROUBLE BUSTER

Published weekly, or whenever news is abundant and the printers are not on furlough or A. W. O. L.

Saturday, October 26, 1918

Edited and printed by patients and enlisted men at U. S. A. General Hospital No. 2. News items of Fort McHenry, soldier jokes and stories of overseas experiences are solicited.

Address communications to THE TROUBLE BUSTER, U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 2, Fort McHenry, Md.

DETACHMENTS ON DUTY AT FORT McHENRY
Medical Detachment, U. S. A. General Hospital No. 2
Detachment, Quartermaster Corps

SOLDIER OR SLACKER?



THE statement is frequently heard from enlisted men of this Post that so and so is a slacker because he is not in uniform or perhaps employed in some essential occupation. In some cases this appellation may be deserved, but more often it is not. It has been demonstrated and is incontrovertible, that it takes seven men behind the lines to keep one fighting man going. Of course if these men behind the fighter fall down on their job and do not give their very best efforts, then the term slacker is somewhat deserved. This applies equally to the man on this Post and to the man in civil life.

Do you, Mr. Critic, give your best at all times, or only when some one in authority is observing you? Do you ever do more than you are expected to do, or do you try to do less than you are required to do. When you are given a task to do, do you do it willingly, or do you if you are asked to do, say, fatigue, grumble and whine, and use the old worn-out expression "I did not enlist to do this kind of work." A real soldier, when given a specific duty to perform, does not ask questions, but gets right on the job and does it. Also he is not afraid of doing a little more than his share. Do you think the boys "over there" are holding up their end? Sure you do. Then why not pitch in, stop grumbling and whining, and do your share.

You have all heard the late Elbert Hubbard's immortal story entitled "Carrying a message to Garcia." Rowan, when told to deliver a message to Garcia somewhere in the wilds of the Philippines, did not start in by saying, "Where is he at" or "What is the message about" or "What is the best way to find him," but took the message, saluted, and immediately plunged into the wild country and delivered the message,—no questions, no whining and grumbling, but action, speedy, specific action. Perhaps he did not enlist to play messenger boy, but he was not afraid to go out of his way to do more than his bit.

STICK!

We are at war with Germany. And we are going to stick until the whole German machine collapses. There is no other way out of the misery and pain. Put this idea firmly in your mind, you men who are copying clinical records, policing the grounds, washing the dishes in the mess-hall, or whatever mean job has been assigned to you. Crowd out of your mind thoughts of peace, civil life, even home; for it is a part of the German diabolical scheme to win us from the war. They know our hatred of war and all its house; they know that we are home lovers; that we are a sentimental people with more honest heart than clever cunning, and so they play upon our feelings, put the desire in our hearts to end it all and go—home. Oh, they know us—on that side. But they don't know our grit, our deadly earnestness and our ability to suffer when needful.

It is needful now. Beat 'em at their game. Get back to the job. Grin! Grin and—stick!

FOCH'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Keep your eyes and ears ready and your mouth in the safety notch, for it is your soldierly duty to see and hear clearly; but, as a rule, you should be heard mainly in the sentry challenges or the charging cheer.

2. Obey orders first, and, if still alive, kick afterward if you have been wronged.

3. Keep your arms and equipment clean and in good order; treat your animals fairly and kindly and your motor or other machine as though it belonged to you and was the only one in the world. Do not waste your ammunition, your gas, your food, your time, nor your opportunity.

4. Never try to fire an empty gun nor at an empty trench; but, when you shoot, shoot to kill, and forget not that at close quarters a bayonet beats a bullet.

5. Tell the truth squarely, face the music, and take your punishment like a man; for a good soldier won't lie, he doesn't sulk and is no squealer.

6. Be merciful to the women of your foe and shame them not, for you are a man; pity and shield the children in your captured territory, for you were once a helpless child.

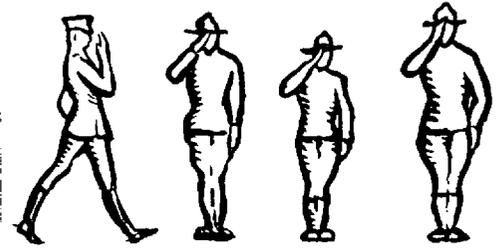
7. Bear in mind that the enemy is your enemy and the enemy of humanity until he is killed or captured; then he is your dead brother or fellow-soldier beaten or ashamed, whom you should no further humiliate.

8. Do your best to keep your head clear and cool, your body clean and comfortable, and your feet in good condition, for you think with your head, fight with your body and march with your feet.

9. Be of good cheer and high courage; shirk neither work or danger; suffer in silence and cheer the comrades at your side with a smile.

10. Dread defeat, but not wounds; fear dishonor, but not death, and die game, and whatever the task, remember the motto of the division: It Shall Be Done.

AS YOU WERE!



C'EST LE GUERRE!

"Private Bo!" the General said:

"Very well, sir?" said Bo.

"Mark time, halt, and stand on your head!"

"Very well, sir!" said Bo.

"Superimpose the left leg on the right!"

"Automatic dress! (Press the knuckle bone tight)"

"Salute the moon smartly the rest of the night!"

"Very well, sir!" said Bo.

PETER PAUL

Bids will soon be in order for some millions of miles of second hand barbed wire. For particulars write Pershing & Co.

One of our Quartermaster men certainly must be a pessimist. We observed him wearing a belt and a pair of suspenders.

A nail-keg will be found of service to some of our indoor baseball players.

If the battle of Bull Run took place now, the newspapers would print a one column article headed "Slight Activity on a Quiet Sector."

Man in Post Exchange "Grabeteria" observed putting a lump of butter in his coffee.

OBSERVER—"What's the idea?"

CUSTOMER—"Well, I believe the strong should help the weak".

A GLASS ONE

SERGEANT—(to passing private) "Where's your eye?"

PRIVATE—"I was too lazy to put it in this noon."

Our idea of the height of efficiency is the way some of our men work to avoid work. Also the excuses they offer, on the spur of the moment, why they cannot do work.

FIRST SOLDIER—"What's this inoculation business for anyway. Seems to me that I am filled with them germs."

SECOND DITTO—"Well you see, it's like this, they inoculate you to kill the germs of typhoid, pneumonia and other diseases.

FIRST SOLDIER—"Man, if that's the case, I sure got a well-filled cemetery inside me."

Gosh! Here's a letter from Jim Jones in London. He says he's lost 20 pounds. I wonder if he's been sick or shooting crap?

"Here," said the editor of THE TROUBLE BUSTER "are a number of directions from patients and detachment men as to the best way to run this paper. See that they are carried out." Gathering them into a large waste basket, the office-boy did so.

OUR WOMEN SOLDIERS

(SPECIAL TO THE TROUBLE BUSTER)

Washington, October 25—Women soldiers are taking no small part in the success of America's gigantic war program.

While they are not taking their places as line troops as did the women who formed themselves into a regiment to fight the Germans during the early days of the Russian Revolution, nevertheless they are helping materially to win the war. These women soldiers are members of the Army Nurse Corps.

When the United States joined the forces allied against the central powers, the personnel of the Army Nurse Corps, numbered just 373 women soldiers. Each of them, however, was a veteran nurse. Many had seen service in the Philippines in Porto Rico, or Hawaii, and without exception all knew the serious nature of the work ahead of them. About them as a nucleus the Corps has been expanded to its present size, which is in the neighborhood of 19,000.

The trained nurses of the country who were in a position to, responded to the call of arms without hesitancy and became its women soldiers. Not once have the strict requirements for admission been lowered. The candidate has to be a graduate of a recognized nurse training school and must have a specified amount of previous training.

At no civilian hospital is the wounded or sick American soldier guaranteed such expert care as in an Army hospital. In the former institution girls in training to be nurses, as well as fully trained women do the ward work. This is the accepted practice and it is cited merely to show on what an unparalleled high level, the Army Medical Department has been planned and organized. In the Army hospitals overseas, only graduate nurses tend sick or wounded soldiers.

At this point, it is interesting to note how the tremendous expansion of the Army Nurse Corps was effected. The American Red Cross Society was asked to help in recruiting nurses for the Army Nurse Corps. The majority of women soldiers now in service were reached and enrolled by this great humanitarian institution. But once they are admitted into the Army Nurse Corps, of necessity all their connections with the American Red Cross is severed, and they come directly under the Surgeon General of the Army, the superintendent of the Corps, Miss Dora E. Thompson, a woman grown gray in the service, who is in reality their generalissimo, and the commanding officer of the hospital or unit to which they are assigned.

About ten thousand more women soldiers are now needed in the Corps to meet the needs of America's fast growing Armies. There is no question that they will be forthcoming before long. The American Red Cross today is exerting every effort to reach women not yet on the rolls who are properly equipped by training for this hazardous and noble work. There is honor a-plenty for an American woman anywhere, by joining in the work of this gallant band.

In order to stay any future shortage of nurses, as an adjunct to the Corps, recently there was organized an Army School of Nursing. This offers to American girls an opportunity to take up the

profession of nursing under the unquestioned direction of the Army. Applications by the hundreds have poured in to the Surgeon General for the school. At the present time more than ten units of the school have been opened at various cantonments and the course of instruction has been started.

In this connection, a number of organizations such as the American Red Cross and the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense not long ago organized a campaign to bring to the attention of the womanhood of the country that it was their duty to enter the nurse training schools, both civilian and military, so that a nurse shortage need never be feared. This educational drive has proved to be highly successful and thousands of girls have promised to do their share toward winning the war by going into nurse training schools.

Thus, prospects for recruits for the women soldiers Corps appear bright, and no matter how long the war may last, it is certain that this unit in the Army Medical Department will add glory to its heroic record.

The term "red cross nurse" as it is generally used today unwillingly has been the cause of the holding back of much public praise and knowledge regarding our women soldiers. Of course, they are red cross nurses under the terms of the red cross treaty of Geneva which all nations signed. They do red cross work. They administer expert treatment to the wounded and sick of the Army not only at bases but on the field.

They may be assigned to a mobile operating unit or field hospital and be subject to heavy shelling. While the matter of experiencing airplane raids has become rather a common occurrence to them in France. But that phase of their life which is not generally even understood by soldiers is that they are an integral part of the immense medical organization under the Surgeon General of the Army. The famous American Red Cross Society has nothing to do with them, for they are under military discipline and are paid and housed under conditions not so very dissimilar from those surrounding the men in the ranks—indeed are a courageous, efficient unit of the Army.

AS YOU THINK

If you think you are beaten, you are;
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win but you think you can't
It's almost a cinch you won't.
If you think you'll lose, you're lost;
For out in the world we find
Success begins with a fellow's will.
It's all in a state of mind.

If you think you're outclassed, you are;
You've got to think high to rise;
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man;
But sooner or late the man who wins
Is the man who thinks he can.

OUR JOURNALISTS ABROAD

THE TROUBLE BUSTER is in receipt of a new paper from the other side, *The Martian*, published at Hospital Center, A. P. O. No. 780, and bearing a strong resemblance to ourselves, and that for no less a reason than that its editors and leading contributors are some of the men who helped last spring in the creation of the original BUSTER here. It is in fact the work of some of our talented friends of Base Hospital No. 48, collaborating with other men stationed at the same hospital center in France. The heading and lively cartoon are the work of "Al" Ablitzere, who used to make us laugh here with his caricatures of our hospital visitors, and there are verses and articles from the pen of "Ed" Ruhfel, (ne Brooklyn Eagle) our own erstwhile post reporter. In spite of the rigors of the censorship over there *The Martian* gets by with some live stuff, including some of the humor for which the A. E. F. is becoming justly famous.

The Martian is printed on yellow paper (appropriately or otherwise) and sells for 30 centimes a copy. The first issue appeared on August 25th, and was printed, like the second, on wrapping paper; the next two editions were mimeographed, and by that time the Commanding Officer was so taken with the idea of the thing that he suggested the creation of the post paper which the sheet has since become.

THE TROUBLE BUSTER is glad to be able to exchange with its younger and more martial brother, and wishes it every success in its soldierly career with the A. E. F.

IN APPRECIATION

This is just a word of sincere and heartfelt appreciation tendered to the officers, nurses and enlisted attendants at Fort McHenry by the thirty-six patients recuperating in ward eight.

We all are flu and pneumonia combination patients. We realize how closely we passed death's door. We saw our noble brothers die about us and we sorrowed; but we saw them die only after everything humanly possible had been done to save them. We saw medical officers, nurses and attendants grieve and even sob, when in cases they saw all their efforts did not avail.

We fortunate ones, thanks to the unfaltering care and attention we received, after our fever had subsided were removed from the pneumonia wards to this convalescent ward. Now after two weeks of "Yes Captain Robinson, much better today," "Little sore on this side, sir," "I still get those sharp pains in my heart," and "Miss Hayward, that milk is surely good; may I have more?" and such like, we are now in our uniforms and are doing our best to walk naturally.

Soon we hope to return to our various camps to continue our humble parts in avenging the dead who fought for justice.

This then is the word of gratitude for our lives, offered to God and to those who so zealously watched and cared for us.

Corp. Alexis M. Schwitalla, C. W. S., U. S.
Editor-in-Chief "The Chemical Warfare,"
Edgewood Arsenal, Edgewood, Md.

ABOUT THE POST

Happenings of Interest Here and There among our Friends

Morning services will be resumed in the Chapel next Sunday morning. Father Callahan, will conduct Mass at 7 a. m. At 10:30 Protestant Communion Service will be held by the Chaplain.

The eleven o'clock service will be in the nature of a memorial service for the men who have died at this hospital, especially the members of this command. Sergeant Leary and Corporal Miller have arranged special music for the occasion.

The evening service will be held in the Chapel at 6 o'clock. Rev. Otto Burhenn will conduct the service.

Chaplains Wunder and Bash of Camp Holabird, Chaplain Carpenter of Fort Howard, and Chaplain Wilcox met Wednesday evening at the Emerson Hotel for a Chaplains' Conference in the interest of the work on these various posts. These conferences will be held monthly.

Mr. Wm. Knapp of the Y. M. C. A. has been called to his home in Huntington, West Virginia, on account of the death of his father-in-law. He expects to be absent about ten days.

The office of the Y. M. C. A. has been moved back to the Recreation Hall. The Knights of Columbus will have the office opposite the "Y" in the Recreation Hall.

With the opening of the new Officers' Quarters, the Chaplain's Office will be moved to the Post Exchange Building in the room adjoining the Library.

Colored patient singing in Ward 11: "I had a good home and she left me."

Rev. Father Callahan, who has been ill with influenza for three weeks, is again visiting Fort McHenry in the work among the men here. Father Wertinger, who cared for his work here most faithfully and well during his absence, has returned to Annapolis.

Captain Harris is in receipt of a letter from Lieut. Barry, formerly of this post, now with a Base Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. Lieut. Barry has just been promoted to first lieutenant, and expects to be sent overseas in the immediate future. He is in the best of spirits and glad to be leaving soon for Berlin. His friends here congratulate him on his promotion.

Private 1st Class Stanley E. Hartman has been transferred to the office of the Surgeon General at Washington for duty in the Division of Physical Reconstruction.

Mr. Christian Miller, of Baltimore, who had the undertakers contract for Fort McHenry, died October 23rd.

Major S. C. Baldwin is leaving us this week to go to the Debarcation Hospital at Ellis Island to take charge of the distribution thruout the country of orthopedic cases arriving from France. Major Baldwin is one of our oldest settlers here, having arrived on the scene early in February, soon after the hospital was first opened. He came from Salt Lake City with a long record as an orthopedic surgeon behind him, and has had entire charge of that work in this hospital. He has established shops for making orthopedic shoes and artificial limbs, and leaves the department in flourishing condition. His many friends here wish him success in his new responsibility. His place here will be taken by Maj. Boughton.

Pvt. Wagner of our autofleet has burst into poetry. One of his contributions was published in the Baltimore Sun. If congratulations from the fair sex continue coming in, the post office will have to put on extra help.

This prescription was sent us by one of our self-made pill rollers. We don't vouch for its efficacy.

Little grains of quinine,
Little drops of Rye,
Make the flu that's got you,
Drop its hold and fly.

Sergeant 1st Class E. M. Bennett, formerly of this post, has been commissioned and sent to Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky.

We hear considerable talk about boxing, and several athletes in the detachment have expressed a desire for more boxing matches. We have plenty of boxing talent. Why doesn't someone issue a challenge and start something?

Lieut. H. J. Long, our new assistant adjutant, reported here from Camp Sherman, Ohio, last Tuesday, and will fill a needed place in the life of our very busy post.

The United States Printing and Lithographing Company, through its Baltimore representative, Mr. Dorsey, recently donated the hospital a cylinder press which will print a form 24 in. x 33 in. This press will be used in teaching press work to disabled soldiers, and on it we hope to print an enlarged TROUBLE BUSTER in the near future.

The gift is sincerely appreciated, and we wish to express our gratitude to this patriotic firm. It is gratifying to have this substantial evidence that large business concerns are with us in the work we are trying to do here.

Sergeant 1st Class John S. Wiles is now top-sergeant of the Medical Detachment. Sergeant Wiles saw seven months service in France with the 11th Engineers and was brought to this hospital as a patient last April after an accident he sustained abroad in February. He was transferred to this post the latter part of July, and was restored to his former rank of sergeant about a month later.

We need an umpire for our nightly ball games.

OVERSEAS LETTER

Private Sisti of Base Hospital Unit No. 48 Writes of Service Over There.

August 3—These past two days have brought to me a realization of what really is being done by our boys up at the front, for we have handled countless numbers of men wounded by all kinds of shells and in all manners. All of yesterday every man of us including officers, just simply labored carrying and caring for the wounded. We retired late last night for a little rest, but not for many hours, for at 3:30 this morning another trainload of wounded arrived and we resumed our work of the day before. Everyone has worked willingly and we are all ready to do more, for the boys are deserving of all the aid and attention we are capable of giving. Our officers have worked like Trojans and from all appearances they will be kept busy continually. The men sent here represent every state in the Union and there seems to be no discriminating characteristics about them, for they are as gritty and as courageous a lot of men as anyone will ever come in contact with, for even in their suffering hours they make no complaint and are eager to get back and continue the good work which they have been instrumental in starting.

Last evening I visited the different wards. I came across a man I had carried earlier in the day. He asked if I wouldn't write a letter to his mother, as his right hand was wounded and he wanted her to know there was no cause to worry. After doing as he requested he was quite liberal with his compliments for Base 48, saying that our branch of the service did more work than most people know about and we received very little credit. It amused me to think of a man who had just come back from the "mouth of hell," so to speak, making favorable comment on our branch of the service. But then it's just one example of the type of men our army is made up of, appreciative of every thing you do for them and ever ready to express it. Some of the tales he told in connection with the front were most interesting. According to his statements, it is a common occurrence to come upon Germans chained to their machine gun and to find snipers up in trees with wire caging to prevent their retreating. Such stories regarding the methods adopted by Germans are undoubtedly true, for patients from other fronts who have never come in contact with one another relate the same stories. If the morale of the Boche at this time is so low, it's only a matter of time when the full American strength will so demoralize them that our dream of "homeward bound" will be a reality.

August 9—An air of optimism has spread all through France since this recent drive at the Marne and there is a just provocation for it all. If Germany with its full strength concentrated on one front is unable to stem the tide it argues unwell for her when the American full strength is made to bear. Men that I thought were ready to breathe their last have been brought back to physical fitness to go back to the front lines.

Private Vincent M. Sisti,
Base Hospital Unit No. 48, France