

THERE IS HOPE.**A Pertinent Letter to the Editor from Captain Goodman.**

To the Editor, Gas Attack:

Dear Sir: In your edition of March 24, 1918, there appeared an interesting article entitled "The Camp Pastor's Story." After reciting many of his experiences about camp, the writer draws his article to a close by narrating an incident intensely pathetic and heart rending.

The case is cited of a young man who has sought a noble end without employing one of the main means of reaching it, this is of seeking to be a soldier without a religion. Having given him a setting in a "vestibule of hell," he leaves there with "the mark of the plague upon him, never to be removed in this life." To a sympathetic Y. M. C. A. worker this lad is quoted as saying: "I never want to look my mother or my sisters in the face again." Thereupon this above mentioned Y. M. C. A. worker tells the boy that if it were his case he would "go to France, sell his life as dearly as possible, and leave his body there." With a climax of tear-filled eyes, the story closes with this unhappy ending: "That's just what I would like to do, but I'm no good as a soldier. They won't let me go. Ready to die for his country, and not fit to do that."

Our object in writing is not to question the genuineness of the incident; rather is it to set forth the falsity of the principle which may be drawn from this narrative, namely, that syphilis is incurable. Nor shall we infringe upon the ground of the theologian by discussing the moral issue which might be raised by what seems an overt counsel to suicide on foreign soil. Sufficient for us shall be the medical aspect of the article.

Let our premise: All modern medical authorities concur in the statement that syphilis can be cured. True, time was when a syphilitic was considered a leper in the community. His case was considered disgraceful and incurable, and he was set aside even in some cases by his own family. But time and the development of medical science have given to the world the means whereby the disease may be cured, and its transmission from generation to generation positively halted.

As it can be effectively cured in civil life, much better can it be cured in the army. A certain ward is set aside in the Base Hospital for its exclusive treatment, and here are to be found the means devised by science to stamp out this most dreaded of dreadful diseases. The existence of this ward, its work and its wonderful results are facts known to so many, that the gross ignorance thereof exhibited in the article is well nigh reprehensible.

MAJ. GEN. O'RYAN URGES SUPPORT OF THIRD LOAN.

Major General John F. O'Ryan has asked every officer and enlisted man in Camp Wadsworth to take a personal interest in the third liberty loan campaign, which opened Saturday. The bulletin follows:

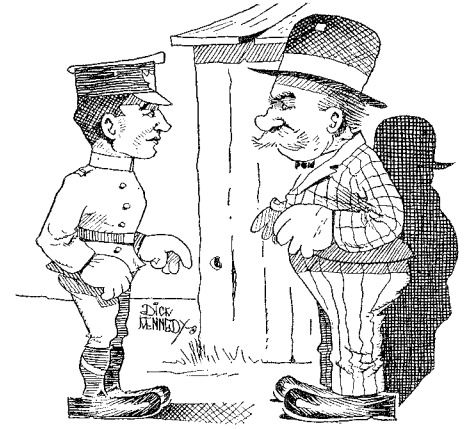
"A third liberty loan campaign will be conducted throughout the United States, commencing on April 6, 1918, and continuing for a period of three or four weeks. The importance of subscribing to this loan can not be too forcibly impressed upon everyone. The men of the army should be especially concerned with the success of this campaign, inasmuch as it is understood that the major portion of the money raised by means of the third liberty loan will be expended by the government for equipment, supplies and other materials that the army will require.

"It is the desire of the camp commander that every officer and enlisted man take a personal interest in the result of the campaign. It is understood that a great many men in this camp can not themselves purchase these bonds in view of their personal obligations under the war risk insurance act for allotments to dependent relatives, premiums for insurance, and also allotments for liberty loan bonds, second issue. However, every officer and enlisted man can render valuable assistance by writing a letter to at least one friend or a member of his family, requesting their aid in making this great loan a success by obtaining subscriptions from at least ten other persons. By so doing, a substantial subscription for liberty bonds should be secured."

Again, syphilis need not necessarily predicate disgrace. Many of those so afflicted have contracted it most innocently, and why a general conclusion of disgrace should be drawn, or left to be drawn from a particular case of moral turpitude, is beyond our power of reasoning. It is a grave violation of the fundamentals of logic.

The physicians connected with this Base Hospital and assigned to work among the syphilitics are men of wide experience and many of them are known nationally for their research work along these lines. They are men of the type who would gladly furnish to the Camp Pastor and the Y. M. C. A. worker information for their future guidance, information of the sort which may cause them to send back to the ranks a man filled with patriotic zeal and fervor, rather than one needlessly haunted with morbid thoughts, and consumed with the idea of sending himself to perdition without a chance.

S. J. GOODMAN,
Capt., M. R. C., Base Hospital.



"Too bad about the Wofford College corps."

"How so, Agammenon, how so?"

"They can't have any regimental supply sergeants."

"And why not, Polonius, why not?"

"None of them have arms long enough to wear the chevrons."

HEAVY PENALTY FOR SOLDIER FORGERS.

For passing bogus checks aggregating \$1,500, Privates Ira D. Brall, William H. Randolph and George D. Katzmann, all of Company D, 102nd Engineers, have been severely punished by a court martial. Their sentence was made public last week. Brall and Randolph received seven years in the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga., and Katzmann five years.

AN APPRECIATION.

A few words in behalf of the good work done at the Stockade by the men associated with the Army Y. M. C. A.

These men do their bit by serving as secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. activities throughout all Military Camps in this country and abroad.

They give their time to the welfare of the boys in khaki, by having places of amusement built for them, supplying writing material, moving pictures, and church services.

Their work in behalf of the prisoners, deserves great praise. These prisoners who are confined for offences committed against the military service, appreciate the work these men do, in their behalf. They are supplied with all kinds of sporting paraphernalia, writing material, books and all sorts of magazines.

V. C. WELCH,

2nd Lieut. 27th Division Stockade.

CALL FOR YOUR LAUNDRY.

There are many who have left laundry at the New York Laundry, a list of which may be had on inquiry. Those who left such may get the same by calling at the office of F. F. Floyd, North Church St., Spartanburg, S. C.