



THREE SAVED FROM DEATH IN DRAMATIC HIGH SEAS RESCUE—Perhaps the most dramatic photo to come out of the bitter Battle of the Atlantic is this picture of a rescue somewhere on the high seas. Three survivors of a torpedoed merchantman are tossed a line from a British warship as they cling in exhaustion to an overturned lifeboat.

Strict Censorship: Out Of The Light Of Morganton

Anything 'Agin the Hospital' Cut Out of Patients' Letters

By TOM P. JIMISON
(This is the seventh of a series by Mr. Jimison describing his experience while a patient in a year in the State Hospital for the Insane at Morganton. Mr. Jimison is a former well-known North Carolina minister, lawyer and newspaper columnist.)

I used to get no end of amusement out of watching Mr. Teem censor the mail. "By gannies," he would mumble as he piled his scissors, "this patient got to have more sense than to think he can send out such stuff as this agin the hospital." When necessary for time, he would sometimes make a long spittle and say, "Read this doggone letter and see if there's anything in it agin the hospital." There usually wasn't, for patients soon learn that the way to get letters out is to brag on the institution. Communications which in the opinion of Mr. Teem should not be sent out are never returned to the writer, hence he doesn't know whether or not they have been accepted.

SMUGGLING'S EASY
The censorship is altogether useless because a letter may always be smuggled out. Attendants can be bribed, departing patients' notes or letters may be sent by visitors or free messengers. The system works harm because it creates deception and hypocrisy and mendacity. Thus, too, it is humiliating to any self-respecting man to have his mail read by strangers and indiscriminately censored by the people about him.

My own letters were generally posted by Mr. Meier or McLean, although I posted a few in Morganton at various times. I can say, however, in all truth, that I never sent out a letter that I would have disliked one particle for the superintendent of the hospital to have read. But when I write to my boy or to some lunatic friend the spittle is not intended for publication. The asylum authorities know that the patients have little difficulty in smuggling out mail, and yet they persist with the censorship. And they would read the incoming letters were they not afraid to do so.

THE HOSPITAL STORE
The hospital commissary operates two pushcarts, one on the men's side and one on the women's, for the sale of soft drinks, tobacco, candy and other small articles. This is real boon to those patients who are unable to visit the store, a privilege that none of the some enjoy except by the grace of some of the nurses. No female patient is ever permitted off her ward unless accompanied by a nurse. The cart on the female side was operated by Ed Wins, an elderly commercial traveler who had become a chronic alcoholic. Early one morning he took French leave, and a new man had to be found to operate the wagon. It was assigned to me and they furnished me a strong young man, Dick McGinnis, to push it. We were allowed to make a profit of five cents on each case of drinks and the same amount on each dozen bars of candy, gum or cakes. We made enough to keep in cigarettes.

Operating the cart was pleasant work. We rolled it around under the stately lindens and maples on the beautiful grounds and handed our merchandise through the bars of windows as casually as if we were in a store. I had a chance to talk a good deal with the doctors, and I met many of the patients whom I had known in other years in various parts of the state. Some of them were tragically wasted by pellagra, crippled by rheumatism, or gnarled and wrinkled by age.

There were sane women there who had been committed because their children were too worthless to care for them at home, women whose husbands had engineered their commitment because they wanted new mates. The same is true on the men's side too. This is no observation of the writer; my information came from the doctors.

probated, then months later given a complete release. Hence if one's family wants him kept in the asylum, there he will stay. If he runs away, they have him returned. Such happened many times while I was there. Of course a man might get out by appealing to the courts, but that is not so simple as it seems. The average patient there has no money. If he carries any with him when he enters it is taken from him and he is allowed so much of it each week. If he smuggled a letter out to a lawyer that gentleman would not be allowed to see him, for no one can see a patient except a near relative unless he has written permission from the family.

DOCTORS HELP EACH OTHER
But there is a sort of free-masonry among the medical men, and they will accommodate each other where an attorney dare not tread. At Morganton they are afraid of lawyers, and the very thought of a newspaper reporter gives them the jitters. They would rather meet the Old Scratch than have an irrelevant newspaper man poking his nose into hospital affairs.

But back to the women. They do not fare as well as the men. Few of them have private rooms, hence none of them can keep any pretty clothing. The clothes of each patient are marked, placed in a cotton sack and stored away in a storeroom. There they are soon destroyed by moths, so that every woman wears State cloth-

ing. This consists of cheap, ill-fitting cotton frock, coarse, flat-heeled shoes, cheap salt-and-pepper cotton stockings, and underwear made of coarse unbleached cotton sheeting. On their heads they wear whatever strikes their fancy, a handkerchief, stocking leg, apron, or a paper bag. It has already been remarked that women are not paroled. Dr. Brown told me that he had patients whose feet had not been on the ground in 30 years. Some of the wards do have space inclosed by high-wire fence where the women are allowed to get out and walk in the sun, but at that some of them are not allowed out. There are not sufficient nurses to watch them, and there is no effort to direct them in any sort of recreation. A few of the most orderly women were occasionally brought out on the grounds during the summer and allowed to play croquet or sit on the park benches.

State College Abandons Annual Engineers' Fair
RALPHIGH—Plans for the 1942 Engineers' Fair at State College have been abandoned because of the war situation and the possibility of a shortened school term, Mason Banks of Greensboro, president of the Engineers Council, announced today.

The fair, usually presented in the Spring, has been an annual feature on the campus for many years and at times has attracted over 10,000 visitors.

For Attempt At Assault

Girl's Screams Awaken Family

A Negro who attempted a criminal assault on an eleven-year-old white girl was sought by police today.

Last night shortly after 11:30 o'clock, a Negro man entered the residence of Mrs. Janie Simpson, 308 E. Vance Street, through a dining room window and crept into a bedroom where her eleven-year-old daughter, Mary Elizabeth, was asleep. The Negro pulled the child from the bed to the floor but her screams awakened other members of the household, who rushed in to investigate. The Negro then fled, jumping out the window through which he had come.

Police were making diligent effort to obtain information that might lead to the Negro's apprehension. Fingerprint experts from the identification bureau were searching for prints that might be used in the development of the case.

Purchases Up to \$600,000,000 Total

WASHINGTON—The Agriculture Department reported today it purchased \$600,000,000 worth of farm products during December for shipment to Great Britain under the Lend-Lease program and for distribution under domestic relief distribution.

This brought the total for such purchases to more than \$650,000,000 since inauguration of the Lend-Lease program last April.

Ought To Be Ashamed

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.—The District Court has awarded George Maurer \$57.12 damages for a sprained knee received in a truck accident at the Albuquerque Air Base.

Maurer was safety engineer on the project.



TOO TALL FOR THE NAVY—Turned down by the Navy because of his height, Allen Guy Jackson, seven feet, three and one-half inches, stands on the scales of the recruiting office in Birmingham, Ala., as Chief Pharmacist's Mate W. F. Dodson measures him from a table. Note that the height measuring bar to which Dodson holds a ruler barely reaches over the 24-year-old giant's chin. Maximum height for enlistment is six feet four.

Work Order For Big Job

\$12,000,000 Project At Augusta

Thousands of work opportunities in building trades were disclosed today when it was learned that the Jones Construction Co. of Charlotte has been given a work order for a \$12,000,000 job at Augusta.

These prospective jobs for workmen were in addition to the hundreds that were made available during very recent days by the securing of a \$20,000,000 job at Blackstone, Va., by a building syndicate in which the F. N. Thompson Co. and McDevitt and Street Co. of Charlotte were interested, and by the \$25,000,000 construction job secured by the Jones Co. at Ocoee, Ala.

POLICY
Edwin L. Jones, executive head of the Jones Construction Co., here said that, under the policy of the War Department's construction division, he was not permitted to make any announcement concerning the report, current in construction circles here, that his firm had been awarded the Augusta job.

It has been the policy of the Department since the days of first construction of camps for training the enlarged Army, to issue "work orders" than at a later date formally sign the contract. Ofttimes this necessary routine has resulted in a job being virtually complete before the contract would be formally signed.

Mayor Arthur Will Fill Berry's Board Position

UNION, S. C.—The chairmanship post of the Municipal Electric Light and Water Works Commission will be filled from an appointment by Mayor E. J. Arthur and his Board of Aldermen.

This vacancy was created by the recent death of Dr. Robert R. Berry. The selection is to be for Dr. Berry's unexpired term.

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Plaids, stripes, and solid colors in your perennial favorites. Gingham and Chambray! 49c Yard.

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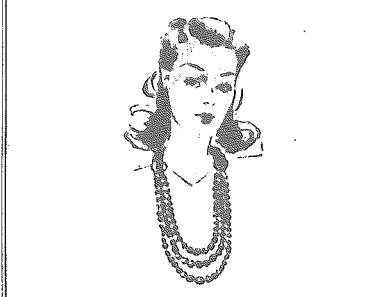
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