Monisteria Mennonite -

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE . CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE Hospital Unit

Plospital Section.

ROBERT KREIDER
ROY E. WENGER

UNIT No. 117



AKRON, PENNSYLVANIA HOLI HELL HELL TO BEXETER SCHOOL TER TO BE AT THE PORT OF THE PERSON OF THE PERS HAPPETER RHODE ISLAND

JUL C 46

July 1, 1946

tients, others worked on the larm, and others in the cover house.

DR. JOSEPH H. LADD ME JE HE HE SUPERINTENDENT AND

+ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Ernest A. Goertz

Mr. Warren Leatherman
Mennonite Central Committee
Akron, Penna. may the group certainly was a rodsend to me.

Dear Mr. Leatherman,

Following is the history of this unit just as it was written by Dr. Ladd to Colonel Kosch.

Dy Dear Colonel Kosch: of trofeld ald bellam ben an . ologo end to

To me our experience with the CPS men and their wives has been interesting, instructive and on the whole satisfactory and profitable. Without any doubt the availability of the services of these men and their wives made it possible to continue the operation of the institution at full capacity, though not at times at the usual standards of excellence.

For no valid reason I had expected that this group of men would be considerably above the average in their conscientiousness. in their kind heartedness and in their desire to be of service to unfortunate humanity. However, I found them to be just ordinary human beings. Some were more or less hypocritical in their protestations of patriotism and were not above beating the patients on occasions. One man had to be returned to the camp on account of a nervous breakdown. One man, with his wife and daughter, came with chips on their shoulders, and as is usually the case promptly found someone to dislodge these chips. It was necessary to dispense with their services. Some proved to be eye servants, and were inclined to shirk their duties when opportunity offered. On the other hand the majority of the men were conscientious and energetic in the discharge of their duties, and showed a readiness to be of real service to the patients here. And some were exceptionally valuable and efficient.

So far as I have been able to learn the group was received here with very little antagonism either latent or expressed. A few of our old employees who had relatives in combat zones or in prison camps were a little bitter, but they did not express their bitterness too openly.

The group filled positions in many different departments of the institution. One man was slated for a job of social worker. but it took some time to make the necessary arrangements, and meantime he had a nervous breakdown. It seemed better for him to return to camp for a chance of getting more congenial work to do.

(over)

One man worked as an attendant for part time and as a drawing instructor for the rest of the time. I think this man endeared himself to the patients with whom he came in contact more than any other member of the group. One man who was here only a short time took photographs of all the patients of the institution for record purposes. This was a valuable piece of work. Other members of the group served as attendants in direct care of the patients, others worked on the farm, and others in the power house.

It may be regretable that there should arise the necessity for the formation of such a group as the CPS, but be that as it may the group certainly was a godsend to us.

Very truly yours,
Joseph H. Ladd, M.D. Supt.

I think this gives a clear picture of Dr. Ladd's impression of the group. He had mailed this history to Colonel Kosch before he knew that the MCC also wanted a history, So I think it is his honest opinion.

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Ernest A. Goertz

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