

# This CONTENTS SUMMARY may be used as a five-minute talk



THE American Red Cross stood shoulder to shoulder with our fighting forces in the past twelve months and extended more hands to help than could ever be counted. These hands lifted loads of worry and fear—or just plain boredom—from the hearts of men in our military and naval hospitals on land and sea. Red Cross hospital social workers, with understanding skill, resolved worries that retard a man's recovery, while recreation workers and Gray Ladies, with music, movies, games, and banter, relieved homesickness.

Other Red Cross hands assisted discharged, disabled men through readjustment to civilian life—a growing task.

Still other hands offered a quick, competent “lift” to able-bodied soldiers in personal difficulties.

Many extended an American welcome at clubs and other Red Cross facilities to our airmen, soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guardsmen, nurses, and Wacs in foreign lands. Others brought refreshment and entertainment to men at isolated stations by clubmobiles and in aeroclubs.

They helped collect millions of pints of blood for life-saving plasma. They worked at packing those heartening prisoner of war cartons which other Red Cross hands carried, with clothing, medicines, and other necessities, to prison camps in enemy countries.

Many thousands of nurses were recruited by the Red Cross for service in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. A hundred thousand volunteer nurse's aides served in veterans' and civilian hospitals. Gray Ladies and hospital visitors specialized in bringing cheer to army, navy, and veterans' hospital wards. Dietitian's aides volunteered for civilian hospital work.

Red Cross production workers made hundreds of millions of surgical dressings, knitted sweaters and other comfort articles as officially requested by the armed forces, sewed millions of relief garments, and sewed and packed