

Dayrooms in American camps were furnished comfortably and supplied with recreation equipment by Red Cross Camp and Hospital Councils.

RED CROSS CLUBS

At the request of the Army, the Red Cross operated many clubs overseas where American soldiers might find the comfort and friendliness of home. These buildings, attractively furnished and staffed with Red Cross recreation and other workers, became the mecca for men in need of relief from the monotony and rigors of army life. Good American dishes and hotel service, including comfortable beds with sheets, were offered at prices below cost, the charge being made at the Army's request. No charge was ever authorized by the Red Cross for any other service or supplies.

Reading, writing, and game rooms, movies and dances, sightseeing trips, picnics, fishing trips, golf matches, theater parties were provided. The club also arranged for the men to visit nearby homes. As our armies advanced, new clubs were opened in cities in new areas.

Aeroclubs—Red Cross huts at air bases—and camp clubs, overseas, gave a touch of home. "Traveling recreation huts" called clubmobiles, manned by young women recreation workers, provided coffee, doughnuts, and music or motion pictures for men at isolated posts overseas.

As fighting became more intense, rest homes where men might recuperate were established by the Army and staffed by Red Cross hospital and recreation workers.

RECREATION FOR THE ABLE-BODIED

To the Army and Navy overseas, in emergencies, the Red Cross supplied recreation equipment for able-bodied soldiers and sailors, such as motion picture projectors and athletic goods. Its men recreation workers overseas contributed their services as called upon by authorized officers. As the situation required, the Red Cross aided in producing shows with local vaudeville performers or talented servicemen, many of them former professionals of stage, radio, and screen.