CHICAGO GANG HOLDS SEMI-ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER

The folks of the Chicago area, former members of the great 21st General Hospital, met again on October 7, 1950, at Hans Nielsen's restaurant on the far south side of Chicago, to celebrate their second get-together of 1950.

On this occasion only 45 were present but it was a darned happy bunch. Walter Erickson of Hastings, Minnesota was present. This lad once ran for Mayor of Hastings. When he got a whiff of the stench of politics, even in that pious community, he became nauseated -- he quit. That is his story and I'm inclined to believe it.

Cute little Jimmy Polchaire was there with his tiny wife, a blond. They got into a huddle with "pussy cat" Katz, who busied himself giving egoistic promises of "I'll get it wholesale for you" -- the furniture they were discussing. The Polchaires having three children, it seems to me they already are in the wholesale business - so one can readily understand why they need additions to their furniture - now and then. The last I heard "little ole' Pussy Katz" took care of the situation - wholesale.

The food was delicious and in general the party was a huge success. However, we have learned by experience that our idea of having two parties a year is too much of a burden upon many of the lads. It isn't cheap. Most of the fellows are young and raising a family, with high rents and living expenses, cannot afford this luxury more than once a year. We give them credit, hence it was unanimously agreed that our original idea of creating closer contacts by having two parties annually, was in error. Perhaps, we can entice groups from St. Louis and elsewhere to meet with us. The distance between St. Louis and Chicago is the same in reverse. Is it not?

Present for the conflag were: Michael & Mrs. Altpeter; Herman Becker; Joe & Mrs. Dongarra; R. Drachenberg & friend; G. Dressler; Stan & Mrs. Ehn; Wallace Erickson; Dr. Stan & Mrs. Goldberg; Ken & Mrs. Happach; Bill Kennelly; Russell Larson & friend; Jim & Mrs. Polchaire; Joe Potaczek; Carl Reinke; John & Mrs. Schultz; Irene Steplyk; Paul Valko; Allen Katz; Leonard Manuzak; Fred & Mrs. Fandorf; Dom & Mrs. De Rosa; Richard & Mrs. Ebert; Elmer Custer; Ray Bucholtz & friend; Marty Ferguson; Malvin & Mrs. Reichhold; Grethe Knudson; Paul Kaiser; John Dimmig; Charles Sharp.

Marty Ferguson, the faithful one, along with Ray Bucholtz, Dom De Rosa and Fred Fandorf work hard for this and deserve much credit. Knute does her part following handsome guys like Reinke and getting nowhere. But she does put in a few licks getting the assorted wives and husbands intermingling. Otherwise the girls would be left on the sidelines.

It was a great party but we must have better attendance to make ends meet. A cordial greeting to each and every one of you on the mailing list.

Grethe L. Knudson.

P. S. Talked with Bill Engel on the telephone when he last commuted between Michigan City, Indiana and St. Louis. Learned from him that the 'Jedge' and Helen Kelly and the Junior Lattners each have additions to their families. Prolific the Kelly's and the Lattners. 'Tis three of a kind for Bob and Helen Kelly, girls, and a pair of girls and a boy for Carl and Mary Lattner. Even though a bit late we offer our congratulations. (Ed.'s note, all the rest of us do likewise)

Heard rumors that Ben Charles is married but I do not believe it. A confirmed bachelor if there ever was one. If he is I wish him the best of luck as they
do not come any nicer.

Visited Alice Kokrda Lewis at Fort Bragg, N. C. Her husband Major Jim Lewis is stationed there with the regular army. They have two lovely children, Linda 5 and Jimmy 3; also two cats, Tar Baby and Blackie. Until the first of the year their address is TH 380 B. Butner Court, Ft. Bragg, N. C. After that the Major will spend two years in Korea or Europe.

That covers the news from this end. Knute

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PERSONALS

Sergeant Jablonsky has been discharged from the V.A. hospital with the tag they are unable to do any more for him at this time. He is improved but far from being a well man. He possesses sufficient strength for brief telephone calls or visits. The telephone number is CH 9590 and the home address 2574 Palm Street. Surely some of us can contact Jabby occasionally. Twould be a good tonic and lighten the load of his good wife. Also will help to pay off the debt of gratitude we owe him for the many noble deeds he has done for us.

Ed Manley dropped into the office not too long ago. We had a pleasant visit and we are pleased to report that he is showing some signs of improvement. Ed now attends classes at Washington University and is very happy with his work. A picture of health and a radiant smile makes Ed's problem seem deceptive. We admire his courage and we know it will win for him. As a matter of fact having a guy like that come in gives us a big boost too - sometimes we need it and we like it.

Dr. Edwin C. Ernst, who most certainly needs no introduction to our readers has added another job to the many he now has. In convention at St. Louis the Southern Medical Society elected him second vice-president which means that in a couple of years he automatically ascends to the presidency. How Dr. Ernst does all he does, has his many friends dumbfounded. The Southern Medical Association is to be congratulated on its fine judgement in electing its officers.

Mrs. Stanley Harrison of the Clayton Garden Club No. 1 won the tri-color ribbon for the best floral display in a show in the Clayton Public Library during

the period when those shows were being held. There were other awards but Mrs. Harrison came off with the top prize.

Mrs. Harrison is the wife of Dr. Stanley Harrison, commanding officer of the 21st Station Hospital, World War II.

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LETTERS

University of Virginia Hospital

Dear Bill: I am distressed to hear about your ill-fortune. What a terrible experience. It was nice to know, however, that you are back at least in a condition satisfactory to continue your labor as editor of the Rouen Post. In spite of the large number of General Hospital people whom I do not know, I find it always interesting and would hate to see it discontinued.

With very kindest regards,

Sincerely, Edwin P. Lehman

Palmyra, Mo.

Dear Bill: Here is my bit toward keeping you out of the dog house. May I say, if all of the members of B.H. 21 and the 21st General Hospital enjoy reading the Post as much as I, and respond to your cry for help the Post will soon be out of the red.

Sorry to hear of your accident but glad you and your wife are now well over it.

Respectfully, Ruby Idle Dearing.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Bill: I enclose herewith a small contribution for the benefit of the Rouen Post paper and I certainly hope that the response will be prompt in this case as I thoroughly enjoy the paper and would hate to see it discontinued. It has been a long time since I have been over to St. Louis. I certainly was sorry to read in the paper of your bad automobile accident. Apparently you are alright again and back on the job. I guess you are too darn ornery to have anything happen to you. I am glad to note that Mrs. Engel is getting along all right and improving and I certainly hope that she will entirely recover and be on her feet and her own sweet self again before very long. I enjoyed so much the few visits I had with her during the last reunion.

I also note that poor old Jabby is again quite ill. If there is anything you can do for him, do it, and send me
the bill. I am writing him a letter care of VA Hospital at Jefferson Barracks as I take from the paper he is still there.

Give my very kindest regards to Mrs. Engel and I will look forward to seeing you both on my next visit to St. Louis which I hope will be ere long.

Sincerely,
Spence Allen

* * *
Fayetteville, Ark.

Dear Bill:
Belated contribution - Is your right arm broken or paralyzed? Hope you are well - you know you never answered any of my hospital notes. Perhaps, left with a slight touch of amnesia.

Cordially, Allan A. Gilbert, M.D.

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The foregoing are Base Hospital 21 members, World War I.

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Notes and letters to follow are from members of the 21st General W. W. II.

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We have a note from Joe Parker of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Bill: Hope this will help some. I sympathize with you in your new bosses.

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Joe Parker has a sense of humor and picked easily the intent of the last paragraphs in our last issue. However, it intimated the reference enet the new bosses was considered to be acrimonious, instead of a good follow-up for the opening paragraphs of the September issue. It did bring results as is indicated by some of these letters and the returns. However, there was no thought on our part to indicate that we are needlessly being bossed. Quite the contrary - we have had much rope. Drs. Beam, Kelley and Lettner are three chaps we would not mind having as our bosses in any endeavor - to say nothing of this little old Rouen Post. We offer apologies for our misdirected attempt at humor.

2313 Summit Ave.
Union City, New Jersey

My dear Bill Engel: I have never seen you before, but from reading the Rouen Post I get the impression you are a 'nice' fellow and you must therefore be saved from that threatened confinement. 'Judge' without portfolio, Kelley, I knew him very well - he is a hard man! !

May this small contribution be of help.

Kindest regards, John A. Ackerman

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And from Robert R. Anschuetz M.D. of Alton, Illinois we have another,

Dear Bill: Received the 'rough' edition of the Rouen Post yesterday and Ella and I both enjoyed it. We've been kind of waiting for the evidence of your being fully back in saddle and believe we have it now.

I shall give my copy to Joe Mira who will be pleased at your kind remarks.

With regards to Mrs. Engel too, Bob.

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Editor's note! There are so many fine persons in both the Units 21 that it probably is not becoming to single out any one, butethical or unethical, we want to give Bob a little extra pat on the back - a kindlier, friendlier, more efficient person has never crossed our path.

W.E.E.

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Veterans Hospital, Bay Pines, Fla.

My dear Mr. Engel: Sorry to be so late with my contribution to the "Rouen Post". Some time ago, there was something mentioned regarding subscription which might prove more effective.

My best wishes and success and hope you will continue your good work.

Sincerely, Eva Brouillet

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Pottsville, Penn.

Dear Bill: I was with the 21st Gen. in Mirecourt for such a very short time but I enjoy your paper so much, and feel quite negligent because I haven't made a contribution before.
Why don't you charge a yearly subscription rate? It's worth it, really.

I know only three names in your outfit, Arthur and Bernie Nie and Junius Abramson. They were all wonderful to me for the few weeks I was with you and I'll never forget them. You haven't the Nie's address you could let me have by chance? Would very much appreciate it as I've completely lost contact with them.

Thank you for sending me the paper all of these months and I'll try to do better on the financial end.

Sincerely, Edythe Beech.

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Editor's note! Arthur and Bernie Nie reside at 6526 Sherman Way, Bell, California, telephone, Logan 8-2598. Junius S. Abramson at 381 So. Broadway, Yonkers, N. Y.

* * *

Ontario, California

Dear Bill: 1. Responding to the current call for funds, I enclose a small check; hope it helps a little.

2. News here: We welcomed a daughter (our first) Shelley Lynn, on the 2nd of September. Funny, but all she does is eat, sleep and grow. Anyway, that's almost all.

3. And Dave Hollander to the contrary notwithstanding, I'd like to voice my personal objection to your calling our recent reunion a "Regional Reunion". It was smaller in terms of attendance than the St. Louis national affair, and smaller than the Chicago Regional; but let them as wants to do so calls theirs "Regional." Ours was national. Our attendance included people from California, Colorado, Missouri, and a reservation (later cancelled) from each, Florida and Louisiana. If that ain't "national," you define it.

Yours, Bernard Kelber

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Editor's note! Objection sustained. There being no further comments let us go to the very important business of extending our heartiest felicitations to Mr. and Mrs. Kelber. We are certain they shall find much has been added to their lives.

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Newberry, Indiana

Dear Bill: This is not a big contribution but perhaps it will help to keep the news of the 21st coming to us. We do enjoy it a lot; its about the only contact I have left with a swell outfit. If nothing happens I am going to make every effort to get down to the reunion next Spring.

Here's luck to you and all the gang!

Sincerely, (Mr.) Carroll E. Wolford

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Dunellen, N. J.

Dear Mr. Engel: Enclosed is a small contribution to the Rouen Post. I wish it could be more, as I thoroughly enjoy receiving it.

Sincerely,

Virginia Grabowski Shannon

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ROUEN POST SUPPORT

Contributions are still being received and the average is fairly good but the number of donors has been disappointing. The last report we had from the Finance Officer was that fifty-nine persons have responded.

Compared to 845 on the mailing list, percentagewise that is most disappointing. Please NOW, send whatever you feel you are able to contribute to:

Justin J. Jackson, Finance Officer
7477 Gannon Avenue
University City 5, Missouri

THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

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Send in some material about yourself and family. Our readers like to hear about and from you.

Bill Engel
220 North Fourth St., St. Louis 2, Mo.