

# Hospital Built By Schweitzer May Close Soon

The rising cost of healing in Africa in 1913, may soon force closing of the Dr. Walter Munz, who took famous Lambarene Hospital over, the hospital when that Dr. Albert Schweitzer built Schweitzer died two years ago,

flow to London recently to seek financial aid for the institution. "Unless we can moderate quickly, we shall have to shut," he said.

The running expenses of Lambarene have increased alarmingly. Flying modern drugs and vaccines into Lambarene airport from Europe via Gabon's capital, Libreville, is more costly than the health of 50 years ago. As the country's living standards rise, the price of running the hospital goes up too. Each year Lambarene has been running further into the red.

As a charity, the hospital relies on private support. It receives no government grant. The old-time donors of Schweitzer's era were his personal friends and acquaintances and they are gradually dying off. Special projects have been trimmed for economy one by one. A half-completed plan to purify the water supply to the village hospital has been shelved although public opinion grows increasingly less tolerant of disease spreading through contamination. Vaccine

campaigns for mothers and children in the ante-natal clinic and demonstrations about child care and malnutrition have also had to stop.

To cover basic running costs of the village, still more economies are needed. No one at present will give the exact financial figures of income and expenses, but these will come out at the annual general meeting of the World-Wide Friends of Schweitzer Committees in

January. In 1966, the United Kingdom Committee, formed to raise funds for Schweitzer's work, financed the purchase of Al-tardi, 75 acres of quiet space next to the overcrowded, bustling old village hospital. To build new medical facilities would cost at least \$1.9 million and the total sum raised here this year will be under \$14,400.

For a man who opposed

money-raising campaigns, Dr. Schweitzer was very good at reluctant publicity. Now that he is dead, giving money to a commonplace, bush hospital lacks the emotive appeal of giving to an eccentric legend-ary genius.

Dr. Munz has no scruples about fund-raising and has just spent two months in New York trying to do so. But his personality is as quiet as the great man's whisper.

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## Sherman Tank Retreats From Rosedale Barrage

Kids didn't appreciate it and after seven years the Sherman tank that had seen service in World War II has been removed from Rosedale Park.

In fact, kids little and big did their darndest to tear apart the metal monster—a giant weapon that weighs 14,000 pounds, or 10 tons if you prefer it broken down.

It took a monster machine to pick up the war weapon and load it for hauling away to an Army storage lot. The equipment, for transport, is new and still in the experimental stage.

IN FACT, it has been in use at Fort Custer with another transport machine also so new that it broke down and its arrival from Battle Creek was delayed while Army officials, manufacturing company executives and engineers, and Livonia representatives stood in the cold, awaiting the removal demonstration.

Livonia's Parks and Recreation Department got the tank seven years ago from Dearborn, where it had been on display. It was the thought then that the tank would be of interest particularly to small fry and teenagers who might see or use such fighting equipment when they reached military age.

It was also the belief that even adults might like to see the tank that was so effective in the wars beyond the Atlantic and Pacific.

MAIN IDEA, said John Dufour, superintendent of Parks and Recreation, was to provide a war machine around which Livonia kids could play—and which would stand up under the pressure.

But, even the giant Sherman couldn't defend itself against the onslaught of obnoxious written on the body which read across the street from the Rosedale Presbyterian Church.

But, said Dufour, explaining the complaints of the Rosedale Civic Association, that wasn't all.

The Iron monster became the target for youthful occupants of parked cars who threw empty pop and beer bottles, leaving the park scene littered with broken glass.

There also were those who threw buckets of paint on the tank—after Parks and Recreation crews had done a nice painting job in the spring.

It became necessary, Dufour said, to weld down the hatches, to keep children of varied ages out of the tank.

It became necessary, also, to close down the massive 32-ton machine—although boy-power never could have pushed it away.

BUT EVEN when the doors were welded shut, and there was no longer a way to get into the innards of the warpiece, kids dug beneath the giant to see what they could see.

It was a disgrace to the neighborhood, reflected the ill-manners of the youths who congregated there.

It was more than the Rosedale Civic Association could stand, and sent its members to the Parks and Recreation Commission with the plea that the tank had outlived its usefulness as a Livonia public attraction.

There was also the word of the church goers that the vulgarity displayed by the un-

thinking was not pretty to see, or read, that removal of the "blackboard" might remove the obscenity problem.

The commissioners agreed, took the story to the Army Tank Arsenal in Detroit, where the process of unwinding red tape was begun, and finally completed.

DUFOR said that a survey of surrounding communities brought none—in view of Livonia's experience—who wanted the tank for educational or display purposes.

So the Sherman has been taken away, perhaps to final discard. Memories remain, not all something to be proud of.

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