

Ehrlich, Daniel

Local Dentist Finds War Is Just "Teeth"

Why many New Zealand native 18-year-old boys enter manhood equipped with a complete set of false teeth is one of the mysteries that puzzled Dr. Daniel Ehrlich, Lt. Senior Grade, during the three years he served with the U. S. Navy "fixing" the teeth of Navy and Air Corps men in this country and abroad.

Dr. Ehrlich, who practiced dentistry for nine years in Bethlehem prior to enlistment in the service, states that literally the worst teeth he treated were those of members of the New Zealand Air Corps. Next in point of progress of decay came the teeth of the English. As for the Americans—they rated very high at the opposite end of the scale.

Other men, Dr. Ehrlich stated, return from combat duty bursting with knowledge of planes, ships, strange lands and animals that inhabit the same. He saw all these wonders in New Caledonia, the Philippines and the Solomons. But from November 25, 1942, to the present date, when he is prepared to embark on civilian practice again, the Naval dentist saw principally—teeth. Even the rigours of war did not lessen their prominence in his line-up of duty.

Two Bethlehemites encountered by Dr. Ehrlich during the war period were Captain Henry Rothrock Jr., who was stationed in New Caledonia and expects to return shortly to his post as chief pathologist at St. Luke's Hospital, and Ralph Sotzing Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sotzing of 1804 Sycamore Street. Young Sotzing was co-pilot of the commercial plane which transported Dr. Ehrlich across country after his recent landing in the United States.