

ARMY SYNAGOGUE OPENED AT CATTERICK

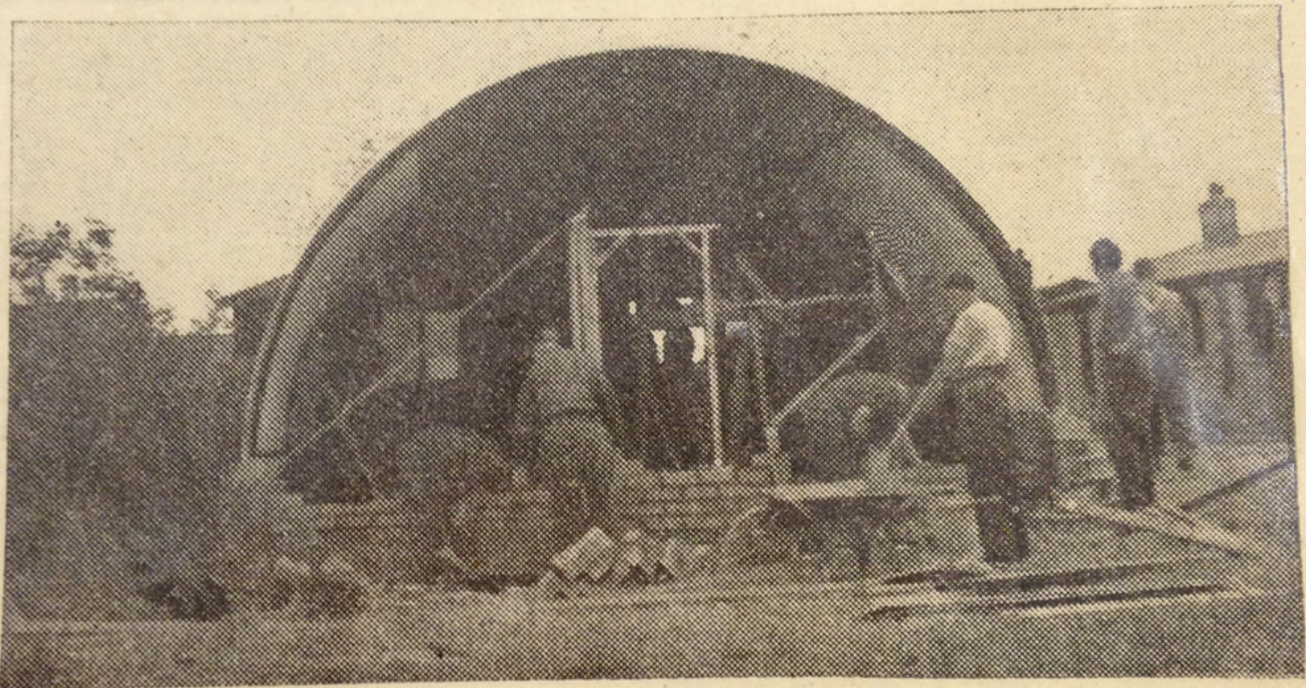
Built by German Prisoners of War

At the Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, on Sunday, Rabbi I. Brodie, S.C.F., the Senior Jewish Chaplain, consecrated a military Synagogue. The service was conducted by the Area Chaplain, the Rev. M. Wagner, C.F., assisted by the Rev. A. S. Super, C.F., and the Rev. Dr. Barnett Joseph, C.F. A large and distinguished gathering was present, including the General Officer Commanding Northumbrian District, Major Gen. R. F. B. Naylor, C.B., the Commander of the Catterick Area, Brig. L. S. Lloyd, M.C., the Assistant Chaplain General, Northern Command, the Rev. Mr. Hewson, the Deputy Assistant Chaplain General, the Rev. H. S. C. Spurrier, T.D., and the Senior Chaplain to Catterick Garrison, the Rev. Dr. Brandon, C.F. Representatives of the Y.W.C.A. at Catterick and of North-Eastern Jewish Communities also attended,

of the Jewish faith had done in this war in the Services, in industry, and in every walk of life. A Synagogue at Catterick was long overdue, and now the biggest military centre in the North of England had a place of worship where Jewish personnel could attend.

Brigadier Lloyd said that he, too, was glad that facilities were now available in that area for Jewish personnel, who would not have the inconvenience of going long distances for their services. Great help had been given to the country by the Jewish personnel in the cause of victory in all parts of the world. He was glad to see so many members of his own Church at this ceremony. It was an example of all pulling together for the common good.

The Rev. Mr. Hewson gave the venture his blessing.



German prisoners of war at work erecting the Synagogue

and the congregation was composed of Servicemen from the garrison.

Mr. A. B. Caller, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, declared the Synagogue open. After the congregation were seated, Rabbi Brodie and other chaplains, bearing Scrolls of the Law, entered, the Rabbi proclaiming the customary benediction. As the procession reached the Ark (which is the gift of Mr. Lubetkin, of South Hackney), Pte. Freeman, of the A.T.S., lit the candles on a table before the Ark. Rabbi Brodie gave the sermon and uttered a special prayer.

Following the service a reception and tea were provided, through the courtesy of Capt. Franks, of the Army Catering Corps. A telegram of greeting was read from Lord Nathan, Chairman of the Jewish Hospitality Committee.

Major General Naylor, addressing the gathering, stated that he knew how much the men and women

The Rev. H. Spurrier, T.D., who had been very active in the initiation and carrying out of the plans for the Synagogue, gave a short résumé of its progress.

Rabbi Brodie paid a tribute to the Rev. M. Wagner, C.F., for his efforts to bring the Synagogue project to fruition. He wished also to place on record the fact that a number of German prisoners of war had been made to work on building this Synagogue, which was a sort of poetic justice after the number of Jewish sanctuaries the same barbarians had destroyed.

Mr. Caller also spoke.

A presentation to the Rev. M. Wagner was made on behalf of the personnel by Pte. Freeman, of the A.T.S. In his response the Chaplain thanked the Jewish Communities of the North-East who had agreed to defray the whole cost of the Synagogue at Catterick and its maintenance.