

OUT OF THE FEED BAG

Rotarians were thrilled by tales of daring feats performed by a young Minot soldier in four major battles in North Africa at Monday's luncheon. The hero, Odmund Lervik, who has been given a medical discharge from the service, is now back at his post at the Minot Builders Supply company. He told his story in a modest manner, entirely free from the bravado aspects that many might have assumed, and yet as he told of the grueling march of 40 miles thru the deep mud of almost impassable roads to their bivouac, of the advance and retreat under severe shell fire in numerous battles that lasted for days and nights, of dodging the machine gun bullets of Nazi planes by getting what little refuge they could in hastily dug fox holes, of aid given to comrades wounded and dying, of pounding German tanks out of action with our heavy guns, we could not help but realize something of which this young soldier like many thousands of others have been and are going thru in order to win the greatest conflict of all times.

When we consider what Odmund Lervik has gone thru, we wonder how any of the rest of us can bemoan our own fate of having to put up with some of the inconveniences to which we are subject today; why any of us should complain of high taxes or the little sacrifices we make in order to invest in a few more bonds.

That campaign in North Africa was no "push over". It was won by men of courage who fought on and on against some of Hitler's best and most seasoned troops until every last one of them was killed, captured or driven out of North Africa.