

BETTER LEARN THESE

Following the new order that all non-commissioned officers of the medical department be trained so as to enable them to take the place of commissioned officers, when emergencies arise, a class of instruction is being conducted by Captain Thomas S. Crowe, detachment commander.

The first lessons deal with the daily sick report. It is a subject of vital importance in the medical service. A knowledge of the daily report is one of the first requisites for promotion and a careful study of the questions and answers, which have been carefully prepared for The Caduceus by Captain Crowe, will be of value:

What is the daily sick report?

A form on which is entered the names of officers and enlisted men, of a company or detachment, unfit for duty or in need of medical aid.

Who makes out the daily sick report?

The daily sick report form is required of every troop, company detachment or battery and is made out by the commanding officer.

Where is the daily sick report kept?

In the office of the commanding officer—never leaves it.

Where does it go?

To the post hospital, infirmary or wherever sick call is held.

What data should be placed upon the daily sick report by the commanding officer?

The name, rank, date on which the soldier was taken sick and an expression as to line of duty.

When is it sent to the surgeon holding sick call?

At the time designated by the commanding officer for holding sick call, or at any time if it were manifestly or unjust to the soldier to defer his examination to the usual hour.

Is it mandatory upon the commanding officer to express his opinion as to line of duty at all times?

If he is not able to determine whether in line of duty or not put a query mark in the space marked "line of duty."

Is the commanding officer expected to sign the daily sick report and how often?

Yes, daily.

If he fails to sign what action should be taken by the sergeant in charge of the sick report form?

Unless he is a chronic violator, proceed as if the book had been signed. What notation does the surgeon make on the form?

Expression as to line of duty and disposition of each case.

Is it mandatory for the surgeon to give expression as to line of duty?

As soon as possible it must be determined and note made accordingly. If unable to determine it he puts down a query mark until a definite conclusion is reached.

What remarks must a surgeon place on the disposition column?

Man at sick call must be assigned to hospital, quarters or duty. If man in the hospital should die, desert, be discharged or furloughed to the re-

serve or transferred to another hospital a note should be made accordingly.

Is surgeon required to give diagnosis to the company commander?

No; but it is not improper to do so. Is he required to give it to any one?

Yes; to the commanding officer. Does the surgeon sign the sick form?

Yes.

When and where?

Daily on the line immediately below the last entry.

What are the essential points in regards to the line of duty?

Every disease or injury suffered by an enlisted man is reported as "in line of duty," excepting that the reporting officer knows personally and of his own knowledge or by credible information that disability occurred whilst man was absent or absent without permission or was the result of wilful or immoral conduct on his own part.

Are the instructions sufficiently specific to cover all cases?

No.

Where does the surgeon send the daily sick report of the detachment? Back to the detachment office.

What ultimately becomes of it? Kept for five years and then destroyed. (Army regulations 528 and 281.)

Is there a definite order in which names should be placed on the daily sick report?

According to the length of time they are on sick report.

If soldier appears at infirmary without a daily sick report what should be done?

If immediate treatment is necessary it is given—even admitting a man to the hospital. The surgeon advises the commanding officer of the action taken.

How long is the sick report form book used?

Until completely filled.

How are men presented to the surgeon at sick call?

By the non-commissioned officer who has charge of the sick book, (army regulations 1471.

Are all the men who apply to be placed on sick call necessarily in need of medical care?

No; sick call is often times used by certain men as a camouflage for laziness or in attempting to avoid a disagreeable assignment or by men who have streaks of yellow—in other words, we often find the malingerer on the sick call. It is therefore a good rule to have the same non-commissioned officer hold sick call as long as it is practical and convenient.

Ray Derwort, one of our newest recruits, lacks much of being a rookie. He was transferred to the medical department from the Sixty-first Infantry where he held the rank of first sergeant.

Mrs. W. W. Neal, of Newark, Ohio, returned home on Wednesday after spending several days in Charlotte as the guest of her son, Private Theodor Neal.

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