

## THE REALM OF BOOKS



A CORNER OF THE BASE HOSPITAL LIBRARY.

When this picture was taken it was near the noon hour and there were only three hospital patients reading in the base hospital branch library at the time the camera man appeared. At times there are a dozen of the robed figures moving about among the books.

Miss Marie Fox Wait, the librarian, is seated at her desk. Before her is the vase of flowers which she replaces each morning with the same enthusiasm that she greets each new-comer to the library.

Standing near the door is Lieutenant-Colonel George Renn, commanding officer of the U. S. Army base hospital, Camp Greene. At his side is Sergeant Cameron, in charge of the post canteen, which is in the same building. Lieutenant-Colonel Renn, a promoter of every cause which aids the progressive spirit of the base hospital, has shown a marked interest in the welfare of the branch library. When asked to make a statement for The Caduceus concerning his attitude towards the army libraries Lieutenant-Colonel Renn stated:

"Just as education itself is best shown in the quiet bearings of culture and knowledge so is the work of the army libraries one of silence which brings a result clothed in calmness and yet deep seated.

"A part of the fine spirit of the U. S. Army base hospital, Camp Greene is due to the presence of the library here. Renewed zeal and vigor in the work to be done in the wards and deepened loyalty have been suggested in the volumes read by the men and expressed in their daily lives.

"The men who read in the library during their spare hours or who carry away books with them to be read at their leisure, have almost unconsciously taken on a finer mental attitude towards the business of living and the tasks of war. This transformation is easily felt by their superior officers.

"Every leader in the army should have every reason for endorsing the mission of the military libraries."

The American Library Association has just launched a campaign for \$3,500,000 for war libraries. The first step of the effort is meeting with marked success. The March campaign resulted in the collection of 3,000,000 books. The most of these have been shipped overseas. Nearly 600,000 books in all have been sent across, the majority of them going to France. The call is for books and shipping funds.

**RECEIVES COMMISSION.**

Sgt. Bruno Pindat formerly of this station but who recently was transferred to another post has received a commission as second lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps, A. and is now on duty at Camp Sevier, S. C.

**GETS TRANSFER.**

Pvt. Arthur Bien formerly of Baltimore, Md. and until recently a member of this detachment incinerator force, has secured a transfer to the 429th Ambulance Co., at Camp Greene where he is now on duty.

**TAKES CHARGE NIGHTS.**

After a very pleasant furlough of fifteen days duration, spent largely at Milwaukee, Wis., Sgt. Walter Nierzwicki has rejoined his detachment here and is now in charge of reconstruction ward E-3 at night.