

## MEDICS WERE THERE

HERE ARE SOME CITATIONS OF  
PLAIN "PILL ROLLERS."

(Special to The Caduceus.)

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Skeptics have been busy during the past war when it came to talking about the fighting done by the Medical Department. It would seem from the accounts given by some people that the "medics" don't do much of anything during time of battle except lie around and fix up homeopathic doses of nux vomica for the wounded boys who come back. As a matter of cold, hard facts, the medical department does so much hard, bloody and nerve-racking work during a fight as any one, and not only do they work while others are working, but their work continues on and on when the rest are resting and taking with satisfaction the oodles of praise and sympathy that every one is heaping on them.

This article is not intended to sing the praises of the Medical Department nor to heap encomiums of praise on their shoulders which may already be a trifle sore from carrying litters. It is merely a statement of facts, statistics, if you will, showing that citations for bravery among the enlisted personnel of the Medical Department during the past past war were numerous and deserving, and that some of the things done by the "medics" who are not even given a gun with which to fight back, were as worthy of praise as any acts of bravery performed. Here are a few:

Pvt. First Class Luther R. Bailey, of Section 633, U. S. A. A. S., who received "special mention for splendid conduct on Sept. 15, 1917, during heavy artillery fire and gas attack. Was also cited for Croix de Guerre for bravery and distinguished service on the nights of March 12 and 23, 1918."

Again, Private J. H. Burchfield, Medical Detachment, 16th Infantry, was "cited by General Pershing for extraordinary heroism in action throughout operations of Soissons, France, on July 18-22, 1918. During the entire operation he repeatedly exposed himself to heavy enemy fire in order to dress and evacuate the wounded. On July 22, 1918, he went through heavy enemy barrage to render first aid to wounded in front line, and was himself wounded while engaged in this work."

Private First Class Donald J. Emery, Med. Detachment, Company L, 117th Infantry, was "cited by General Pershing for extraordinary heroism in action near Dickenbush, France, August 22, 1918. Displaying an absolute disregard of danger in caring for the wounded under shell and rifle fire, and a continuous cheerfulness under trying conditions, his courageous example, was inspiring to his comrades."

Private Reginald F. Emmons, Section 511, U. S. A. A. S., was commended by the Officer in Charge for

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"exceptional bravery in rescuing victims from amidst bursting shrapnel and grenades in explosion at La Cordeuve, France, March 15, 1918."

Translation of the original French order as given in return of Section 522, U. S. A. A. S., shows that Private First Class J. Raymond Hannon was cited in order 14, as discharging his duty in a perfect manner. He particularly distinguished himself on March 25, 1918, in securing evacuations on roads fiercely bombarded."

Private Albert S. Hartwell, Section 633, Ambulance Service, was honored by having the distinguished service cross conferred by General Pershing in the name of President Wilson. "Under heavy fire and notwithstanding severe wounds in his head and both legs, he carried a wounded private to a dressing station during September, 1918."

Private James T. Jones, Section 517, Ambulance Service, "in the course of a violent bombardment on Feb. 23, 1918, returned several times in front of a post of safety to look for the severely wounded. He was awarded the French War Cross."

Private Christopher W. Keane, Medical Detachment, 131st Infantry, celebrated July 4, 1918, in a manner never to be forgotten. Officially it is described as follows: "Pvt. Keane was cited by General Pershing for extraordinary heroism in action at Hamel, Belgium, July 4, 1918. Throughout the engagement Private Keane displayed great gallantry and devotion to duty by treating wounded in an area swept by machine gun fire and artillery fire. When two stretcher bearers with him were killed he pressed two German prisoners into service of carrying the wounded to the first aid station."

Although the privates did carry off many honors, the N. C. O.'s were on the job whenever they had the chance. Sgt. Herbert Ratenburg of the Sanitary Detachment of the 101st Machine Gun Battalion, was "cited by General Pershing for extraordinary heroism in action north of Chateau Thierry, France, July 22, 1918. Although wounded in three places by machine gun bullets he followed the attack and continued his duty, thereby inspiring his comrades."

Mechanic Robert E. Ryan, of Section 552, Ambulance Service, was cited in the French order of May 31, 1918, as follows: "Very zealous and always ready to offer his services under the most difficult circumstances. He succeeded in the violent bombardment in repairing one of the destroyed carriages on December 27, 1917. It is described as an excellent action, notwithstanding the violent bombardment."

Another translation from the French order of May 31, 118, gives the following information concerning the actions of Private First Class John Sheehy, Section 552, Ambulance Service. "Always shows the greatest indifference to danger, and devotion to the service. He conducted the evacuations under very difficult conditions, more particularly in November and December, 1917, and in the period during the 23rd and 26th of March, 1918."

## CLAIM CHAMPIONSHIP

HOSPITAL BASKET BALL TEAM  
HAS THE GOODS

When it comes to skill and real playing ability in basket ball the quintet from U. S. A. Base Hospital, Camp Greene claims to be coming into the front row. They have played two games and hold an even break on the winning. In their first appearance on the floor of the Charlotte Y. M. Gym, on last Saturday night, they were outpointed by the fleet Y. M. C. A. team but on Monday the hospital players grabbed a hard fought contest from the nery Charlotte High School lads.

A game is being arranged between Davidson college and the Camp Greene Medics for the first week in February. Corporal Avery Toohey who is managing the hospital team claims the camp championship for his men and is endeavoring to draw other camp organizations into a game for the near future.

Sergeant North sustained a sprained ankle in the game on Monday and will be out of practice for several days but hopes to return to the line up before the last of February.

## WIFE OF FORMER SERGEANT DIES SUDDENLY.

It was with the deepest regret that the base hospital learned of the death of Mrs. Spark Cameron of Gastonia, wife of former Sergeant First-Class Charles Cameron, who was recently discharged from the service here.

Although a victim of the dread influenza Mrs. Cameron fought hard for life and until near the last it was thought that she would recover, but pneumonia set in and on Friday, January 10, she passed from this world forever.

After services at the First Episcopal church on Saturday she was buried in the family plot at Woodlawn cemetery at Gastonia. At the request of her husband six of the soldiers acted as pallbearers. They were: Sergeants First-Class Donovan, Laske, Smith, and Privates Fitch, Brown and Wartley.

Mrs. Cameron was formerly Miss Spark Johnson and very popular with the young people of the city. Last winter she met and later married Sergeant Cameron of the base hospital personnel after a period of romantic courtship. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson, a sister, Grace, and one brother, George, Jr.

## MORE ON LEAVE.

During the past week those who were granted the coveted furlough slips were: Plotzer, Geberman, Ivan Black, who went to the New England States, Sergeant Leroy Sellers, Corporal Wedlow and Kramer, who left for Indiana; Julius Stumpf left for Rhode Island; Albert Williams to West Virginia; Sergeant Frank Wrangle to Massachusetts, and Duty Sergeant William Faulkner to Maine.