

OFFICERS' PAGE

Conducted by Capt. Chas. C. Chandler and Capt. Harry L. Babcock

PAST YEAR HAS PROVEN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT A POWER

EXTRACTS from the Annual Report of the Secretary of War relative to the work of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army during the past year will be read with appreciative interest:

It must be a source of the deepest gratification to the country, as it is to me, that the health of the Army has been so excellent, not only as compared with the Army in other wars, but also as compared with the civil population. For the year ending Aug. 30, 1918, the death rate from disease among the troops of the United States was 6.4 per thousand, in the American Expeditionary Forces it was 4.7; for the combined forces it was 5.9. The male civilian population death rate at the same ages was substantially the same as that of the American Expeditionary Forces.

What this low figure means is shown by comparing it with the rate of 65 per thousand in the Union Army during the Civil War, and the rate of 26 per thousand during the Spanish War. Pneumonia, either primary or secondary to measles, caused 56 per cent of all deaths among troops and 63 per cent of the deaths from disease.

During the year ending August 30, 1918, among the troops in the United States, the number of admissions to the sick report for venereal disease was 126 per thousand men, many of them duplicates, and the far larger number were contracted prior to admission to the Army. In the troops in France, where there were no admissions from civil life, the record was immeasurably better than here at home, and conditions improved so rapidly that by September of the present year, the cases were reduced to the minimum of 1 per thousand men! A showing unequalled in the records of any army of modern times.

MEDICAL ORGANIZATION

Up to the end of July last more than 15 per cent of the entire Medical profession (Fully 35 per cent of the most active class of practitioners, were in service on Nov. 11, 1918,) of the United States were on active duty as medical officers of the Army. The responses of the nurses of America were no less splendid than that of the doctors. During the period of the war, more than \$500,000,000 was made available for the use of the Medical Department. Figures as to the health of our soldiers bear eloquent tribute to the efficiency of the Medical Department of the Army. With the invaluable assistance of the Red Cross, it found itself in a position to render very great service from the beginning. It is significant to note in this connection, that the first casualties of the war were in the Medical Corps of the American Expeditionary Forces, when on Sept. 4, 1917, 1 officer and 3 men were killed, and 5 officers and 6 men were wounded in a German aeroplane attack on one of our base hospitals. On Nov. 11, 1918, the Army had 80 fully equipped hospitals in this country, with a capacity for 120,000 patients. In the American Expeditionary Forces there are 104 Base Hospitals, 31 Evacuation Hospitals and an additional evacuation hospital in Siberia. Army hospitals in the United States cared for 1,407,191 patients during the war; those of the American Expeditionary Forces cared for 755,354; a total of 2,162,545. Aside from this work, the War Department detailed for service in the British Army, 913 American officers, and 169 others for service with base hospitals we have turned over to the British. We have also several ambulance sections operating with the Italian Army.

The various food stuffs issued to the millions of soldiers were carefully inspected, and special schools for cooks and bakers have been established and maintained.

RECONSTRUCTION WORK

One of the most important activi-

GREAT DINNER



It is the consensus of opinion among the officers that the dinner served at the mess hall on Christmas day was one of unusual merit. Not only was the meal very well prepared, but the manner in which it was served and the general atmosphere about the place was such that everyone seemed to grasp the Christmas spirit of good-will and happiness.

The decorations, too, were the object of much favorable comment on the part of the officers who agreed that considerable effort had been expended in securing the pleasing result that was attained. The plain walls and unattractive interior assuming a colorful appearance that proved most inviting to the entire assemblage.

GET HOLIDAY LEAVES

Captain Hayes and Lieutenant Dew are absent from their duties at the Base Hospital and are on leaves of absence over the holidays.

Captain William Cornog, commanding officer of the enlisted personnel, is visiting at his former home in Georgia. Capt. Cornog has been away since Sunday, the 22nd and is expected to return to-morrow.

Captain Herman T. Elwyn has returned to the hospital after a leave of ten days which he spent at his former home in New York City.

ties under the direction of the Medical Department has been the reconstruction work planned for soldiers, sailors, and marines. At ports of embarkation, arrangements have been made for the rapid classification of, and assignment of returned sick and wounded to the general hospitals selected for reconstruction work.

—Major Jos. H. Way

SOUTHERN HARDWARE COMPANY

*Wishes the Officers and Men of Camp Greene
and the People of Charlotte*

A Most Prosperous New Year

OPPOSITE SELWYN HOTEL

Phone 253
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

41 WEST TRADE STREET