



AMERICAN UNITS TAKE OVER BRITISH HOSPITALS

American Surgeons Also Render Valuable Aid Just Behind Firing Line During Great Battles.

British Headquarters in France, June 22.—Quietly and with very little ceremony, so as to escape practically all but official attention, American doctors, nurses and enlisted men have within the last fortnight taken over six of the British great general field hospitals, releasing the English staffs for duty near their front. American surgeons have been rendering valuable aid also in the forward casualty clearing stations during the battle of Messines. This has been the quickest organized aid the United States has given British arms in France and has been greatly appreciated.

The Americans have been much impressed by the thoroughness and effectiveness of the British hospital system. So smoothly have the transfers been made that the Americans have taken up their new work without even a moment's upset in the routine of the various hospitals. The Stars and stripes fly with the British Union Jack from each hospital flagstaff, the two ensigns fluttering side by side in the cool breezes that sweep in from the sea.

Fully Equipped.
The British selected their hospital sites with the greatest care and have developed them with a completeness that has come from nearly three years' field experience. Some of the general hospitals are made up of tented wards accommodating forty to sixty beds each. Others are constructed of a series of huts. Both styles are models of field comfort and convenience. The operating theaters are splendidly built and seem to lack nothing in the way of modern surgical equipment.

Originally planned for 1,040 beds each, the general hospitals have been

practically all enlarged to 1,400 beds and during a crisis can accommodate 2,000 patients.

Organized by Red Cross.
The units which have taken over the various hospitals were organized by the American Red Cross as "United States base hospitals," and with the declaration of war these staffs were turned over to the regular army for service as required.

Each unit has brought along an organizing director who was a surgeon in civil practice, but now takes command as a major in the United States reserve. The commanding officer in each unit is a regular American army surgeon while the subordinate members of the staffs are made up of regular army surgeons and doctors, coming from civil life. The nurses are all graduates of well known training schools, and will probably be supplemented soon by volunteer aid detachments of young women workers such as are now attached to the various British staffs. The non-commissioned orderlies and privates were practically all taken from civil life, but in keeping with the doctors and nurses have settled into their new work with marked efficiency and enthusiasm.

The Units.
The first of the American units to reach France was known as United States base hospital No. 4 and was organized in Cleveland by Dr. George W. Crile, with Major Gilchrist of the United States army as commanding officer. This unit has taken over British general hospital No. 9, "somewhere in France." United States base hospital No. 5, organized at Harvard University by Dr. Harvey Cushing, with Major R. U. Patterson as commanding officer, has taken over British general hospital No. 11; United

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States base hospital No. 2, from the Presbyterian hospital, New York, organized by Dr. George Brewer, with Major Lucius Popewood, commanding, has taken over British hospital No. 1; United States base hospital No. 21, organized in St. Louis by Dr. Frederick Murphy with Major James D. Pipe, commanding, has taken over British general hospital No. 12; United States base hospital No. 10, organized in Philadelphia, largely in the University of Pennsylvania by Dr. Richard Harte, with Major M. A. Delaney commanding, has taken over British general hospital No. 16; United States base hospital No. 12, organized in Chicago by Dr. Frederick Besely, with Major C. C. Collins, commanding, has taken over British general hospital No. 18, all of course being "somewhere in France."

Near Firing Line.
Each American hospital staff has also organized a mobile unit for service in the casualty clearing stations just back of the firing lines for emergency work during the first days of great battles. The American hospitals present an interesting international study with patients from England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Portugal. Steps will be taken soon to increase the various units and bring them up to the strength required for enlarged hospitals. American doctors and nurses have already acquired the tea habit, which they enjoy every afternoon with the convalescent wounded.

EXPECTS BIG NAVAL BATTLE

German Naval Expert Comments on U-Boat Campaign.

Copenhagen.—The steady continuance of the submarine campaign despite the decrease in destroyed tonnage, admitted in the admiralty reports for May, will, in the opinion of Capt. Kuehlwetter, the naval expert of the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, ultimately force a general naval battle

between the British and German fleets as the only means of ending the submarine menace. Capt. Kuehlwetter blames the good weather for the falling off in the number of submarine victims.

AMERICANS IN FRANCE

Take Over Management of British Base Hospitals.

British Headquarters in France.—By Associated Press.—Quietly and with every little ceremony, so as to escape practically all except official attention, American doctors, nurses and enlisted men have taken over six of the British great general field hospitals, releasing the British staff for duty nearer the front. American surgeons have been rendering valuable aid, also, in the forward casualty clearing stations during the battle of Messines. The Americans are much impressed by the thoroughness and effectiveness of the British field hospital system.

STATEMENT BY LEADER OF THE "REFORM" PARTY

Mr. W. A. Stuckey, Who May Run for Governor, Talks on Exemption Board.

Columbia, June 22.—William A. Stuckey, of Bishopville, candidate for Governor and recognized by many as the leader of the "Reform" or Blease party, has issued the following statement on the composition of boards of exemption in this State:

"The position of the 'Reform' party of South Carolina was clearly set forth in a set of resolutions passed in mass meeting held in Columbia on May 14, and reiterated in a written statement handed to Gen. Crowder by

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Cole L. Blease, chairman of committee, in Washington on Tuesday last; which position is that the law with reference to registration and exemption boards should be executed in South Carolina as in other States—that is, that the normal boards should be composed of the sheriffs, the clerks of court and county physicians, men who have been elected by their people and hold their confidence. Should this, in any event, be found impractical, then the minority, which we think really constitutes in this case a majority, should have representation on these boards. Only in rare cases has the minority any representation whatever on these exemption boards.

"The 'Reform' party is made up of loyal and patriotic citizens, and any discrimination against them is unjust and founded on no grounds of reason or wisdom. No less a statesman than John C. Calhoun said that minority representation should always constitute a fundamental principle of just and wise government."

DRAFT TO BEGIN IN TWO WEEKS

Washington, June 22.—Final plans for the draft were laid at the cabinet meeting today.

Afterward it was announced that the exemption regulations, which have been before President Wilson for several days, would be made public, probably on Monday. The drafting itself will take place in this city not later than July 15. The exact date has not yet been determined upon, but Secretary Baker today said it would be not earlier than July 1 and not later than July 15. Suggestions have reached the War Department that the draft be made on Independence day, July 4, but as that is a legal holiday the sentimental scheme will go by the boards.

Difficult.
Th draft has been one of the most difficult questions which the administration has yet faced and President

Wilson has devoted much of his recent time to it. It may now be stated that preparations are already well under way to put down any trouble which may result from the actual drafting. Registration day passed without a hitch, but there never has been a draft in this country that was not attended by trouble or riots of some sort, and the Department of Justice has been charged to see that there are no serious outbreaks at this drafting. In preparing to handle the situation the department is employing practically the same machinery that it used at registration time.

The trouble, of course, will begin, if it begins at all, when the officers go into the homes to call the men to the colors. Out of 625,000 a certain percentage is almost sure to refuse to respond and it is these and their families with whom the authorities will deal.

NO GERMAN PRISONERS ON BRITISH STEAMER

An Atlantic Port, June 22.—The British vice consul at this port said today that there was no truth in the report that a British steamer arriving here had aboard prisoners from a German raider, which had been either sunk or captured at sea. The steamer in question, he said, arrived here yesterday and had only her crew aboard.

SIX KILLED WHEN TRAIN STRUCK AUTO

Baltimore, Md., June 22.—Six persons, two men, three women and a 3-year-old child, were killed when their automobile was struck by the Western Express of the Pennsylvania railroad at Whitehall tonight. The dead:

Charles L. Wiley, owner and driver of the automobile, Mrs. Charles L. Wiley, Samuel Kirwood, Mrs. Samuel Kirwood, Mrs. Rebecca Anderson, 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley.

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