

HOME NEEDED FOR CONVALESCENTS

Hospitals Taxed to Capacity With Patients With Acute Troubles.

THOSE IMPROVING SENT OFF

Often Cause of Relapse—Opportunity for Philanthropist—Needs of Suburban Institution for Patients Still Weak Voiced by Dr. Woodward.

If Washington unwittingly should happen to be the home of some broad-minded philanthropist and humanity lover on the lookout for some splendid means of expression for warmth of heart and goodness, combined with dollars, such an individual need not wait long for such a means of expression.

The Capital of the nation needs a hospital or home for convalescents almost as much as it needs emergency or acute hospitals, and it needs it every day. A considerable number of patients are admitted to the acute hospitals of the city daily, and according to the statements of persons in authority, in order to make room for these patients an equal number of old patients—convalescents—must be daily discharged.

That the greater, more urgent necessity of the new patients renders it absolutely necessary often to discharge convalescent patients much earlier than would be the case were the hospitals less crowded, is, of course, no fault of the new patients or the hospital authorities; but it is none the less hard for the convalescents who are not yet well enough to go home.

Convalescent Home Needed.

A convalescent home or hospital for the poor sufferers of Washington is what is urgently needed to remedy the ills suggested in the foregoing statement. This home or hospital should be located in the country if possible, and, wherever situated, it cannot be brought into existence too soon.

A delicate, apparently very weak woman, attracted general attention on a Pennsylvania Avenue street car one day last week by her evident weakness. To a sympathetic fellow passenger she confided her plight and told a true story of how she had been obliged to leave one of the hospitals of the city before her restoration to health had been entirely effected.

"I've had typhoid fever," was the woman's story, "and I'm still quite weak. But so many patients entered the hospital right along that they can't make room enough, ever, so they have to let the people who are getting better go. They certainly were good to me while I was sick, but I wish I could have stayed a little longer."

"I'm not strong enough to go to work just yet, and a cheap boarding house is a poor place for a woman who is too weak to take care of herself. I haven't enough money to get milk and broths and all sorts of things, either. But I can't complain. Lots of sicker people than I have to be taken care of in this way, and I'm not blaming the hospital people one bit."

Had there been a convalescent home or hospital to which the "hospital people" could have sent her, she would have been in much better care and have had far better chances of a speedy return to good health and strength.

Dr. Woodward's Views.

"Such an institution is needed right here in Washington, and needed badly," said Dr. William C. Woodward, the health officer of the District. "A convalescent home or hospital would be a fine thing. It is a question of the most urgent need with the patients, always. The hospitals keep the weak but convalescent patients just as long as possible, and I do not believe that any are ever discharged until their condition warrants this."

"There are two reasons why hospitals cannot retain the patients in many cases until they are getting better. In the first place there is not room enough for all the acute cases that are brought there for treatment, and in some manner a bed must be secured for some sick person who whom delay of admission means death. Secondly, most patients have a better and speedier chance for recovery in their own homes, if they have any friends to take care of them, than they could possibly have in an acute hospital, where he or she must lie in a bed all the time in the same building with scores of other patients having all sorts of infectious diseases."

"But in many cases these convalescents who are sent away from the hospitals are the sole earners for large families, and thus the family is not only confronted with their own support, but they must provide food and perhaps medicines for the patient until recovery, which, under such circumstances, may be quite a long time."

Should Be in Suburbs.

"Such an institution as a home or hospital for convalescents," continued Dr. Woodward, "should not be in the city; it should be put somewhere out in the suburbs, where fresh air could be had in abundance, and the din of a big city entirely dispensed with. At such a place the poor sufferer, when able to leave a bed could sit out on the lawn and derive the benefits of pure air and sunshine."

"In this way his restoration would be effected far more speedily than in a city hospital or in his own home. A hospital for convalescents cannot be established too quickly in Washington. Its need is imperative. But, if the truth were known, this same need is felt everywhere, and it is a wonder that this scheme has not been put into practice before."

Chesapeake Beach Sunday Trains.

Leave District Line Station 10:30 a. m., and 2 p. m. Returning, leave the Beach 2 and 5:30 p. m. Return to the District at 10:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m. Round trips. The Beach opens for the season May 30.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return, Via B. & O. R. R.

Every Saturday and Sunday. Tickets valid for return until following Monday inclusive. Good on all trains except Royal Limited.

Table d'Hôte Dinner at Barton's, 6 to 9 p. m., \$1.50, with two wines, \$1.50, Music.

HARD TO PLEASE ALL.

Metropolitan Railroad Company Answers Complaints.

Mr. A. B. Yard, of 1339 Twenty-second Street northwest, recently wrote to the District Commissioners protesting against the use of open cars only on the Georgetown line of the Metropolitan Railroad Company. He also complained of the ill-covered pavement in front of an automobile shop on the west side of Connecticut Avenue, between K and L Streets northwest.

Mr. A. L. Thomas, inspector of the Engineering Department, reported with reference to the sidewalk that the proprietor of the place has now cleaned the sidewalk, and has promised in future to keep it in good condition so as to avoid cause for complaint.

The Computing Engineer has reported with reference to the operation of cars on the line referred to. He says that the use of open or closed cars under varying conditions of the weather is difficult to control so as to avoid all criticism. He says further that long experience with the matter has convinced him that the interest of the railroad company is in the direction of the treatment of the question as with least disturbance to the convenience of the majority of the patrons of the road.

Mr. Hunt says that the most serious and constant attention is given to the subject by the officials of the road, and he does not believe that there is any cause for action on the part of the Commissioners.

COLUMBIA DRILL CORPS ELECTS OFFICERS

C. S. Damer Chosen Captain—W. F. Gude Finds Misdemeanor Ticket Winning Masonic Fair Prize.

At a meeting of the Columbia Drill Corps of Columbia Commandery, held Friday night, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Captain, C. S. Damer; Lieutenant, Thomas H. Warfield; second Lieutenant, Jackson F. Blair; additional second Lieutenant, Edgar S. Nelson, Jr.; secretary, and G. A. Kneass, treasurer.

It is the purpose of the corps to go to San Francisco in 1904 and participate in the competitive drill. W. F. Gude, of Columbia Commandery, has at last located the winning ticket for the handsome sofa pillow presented to the Masonic fair by Mrs. Roosevelt, and has received the valued article for which he has received.

Mr. Gude was much interested in the pillow from the start, and bought many tickets, but the one which won the prize was not discovered until several days ago, and he located it in the back of one of the drawers to his desk.

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

Partly cloudy today; probably local showers; fresh south to southwest winds.

Highest temperature, 4 p. m., 66°; lowest temperature, 4 a. m., 58°.

THE SUN. Sun rises 4:41 A. M.; sets 7:13 A. M.; Moon rises 9:50 P. M.; sets 11:20 P. M.

TIDE TABLE. Low tide—4:01 A. M. and 4:32 P. M.; High tide—9:52 A. M. and 10:20 P. M.

STREET LIGHTING.

Lamps lit today—7:52 P. M.; Lamps out tomorrow—11:48 A. M.

EXCURSIONS.

Steamer Macomber for Mount Vernon at 10 a. m. and 1:35 p. m. Norfolk and Washington line for Portsmouth and Norfolk at 6:30 p. m. Trains leave Pennsylvania Avenue and Thirtieth and a-half Street for Alexandria and Arlington every half hour; Mount Vernon hourly, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.; Washington and Alexandria ferry steamers leave Seventh Street wharf, see schedule under "Railroads and Steamboats" at 10 a. m.

TEMPERATURE IN OTHER CITIES.

| | Max. | Min. | 8 p. m. fall. |
|--------------------|------|------|---------------|
| Atlantic City | 72 | 60 | 59 |
| Atlanta, Ga. | 80 | 66 | 65 |
| Bismarck, N. D. | 70 | 50 | 48 |
| Boston, Mass. | 84 | 70 | 74 |
| Buffalo, N. Y. | 66 | 56 | 54 |
| Chicago | 74 | 64 | 70 |
| Cincinnati | 78 | 68 | 68 |
| Cleveland | 78 | 68 | 68 |
| Davenport, Iowa | 80 | 62 | 74 |
| Denver, Colo. | 78 | 64 | 74 |
| Des Moines, Iowa | 80 | 62 | 68 |
| Galveston, Tex. | 84 | 78 | 82 |
| Helen, Mont. | 41 | ... | ... |
| Indianapolis, Ind. | 84 | 68 | 74 |
| Jacksonville, Fla. | 86 | 70 | 75 |
| Kansas City, Mo. | 86 | 69 | 82 |
| Little Rock, Ark. | 88 | 72 | 84 |
| Marquette, Mich. | 62 | 48 | 54 |
| Memphis, Tenn. | 88 | 74 | 84 |
| New Orleans, La. | 86 | 72 | 80 |
| New York, N. Y. | 84 | 70 | 78 |
| North Platte, Neb. | 80 | 58 | 74 |
| Omaha, Neb. | 80 | 66 | 80 |
| Pittsburg, Pa. | 82 | 66 | 78 |
| Salt Lake City | 70 | 56 | 70 |
| St. Louis, Mo. | 84 | 74 | 82 |
| St. Paul, Minn. | 76 | 56 | 62 |
| Springfield, Ill. | 78 | 64 | 74 |
| Vicksburg, Miss. | 88 | 70 | 82 |

HEALTH OFFICE RECORD.

Deaths.

The following deaths for twenty-four hours were reported at the Health Department up to noon yesterday: Rose Wallace, 70 years; Henry T. Clark, 60 years; Howard P. Childs, 47 years; Clifford Bohler, 41 years; William H. Moulton, 36 years; William R. Sharpe, 34 years; Elijah Chapman, 33 years; Katherine P. Patterson, 32 years; Lulu Holmes, 23 years; William M. Allen, 11 years; Ralph Purdy, 8 years; Robert B. Thompson, 7 years; Esther Sanborn-Schmidt, 1 year; Ardella Grigsby, 1 year; Ernest Greene, 6 months.

Bankruptcy Plea Filed.

Max Roginsky yesterday filed a petition praying to be adjudged a bankrupt. He schedules his liabilities at \$1,000, with nominal assets. Mr. Leon Tolmire represents the petitioner.

Table d'Hôte Dinner at Barton's.

6 to 9 p. m., \$1.50, with two wines, \$1.50, Music.

PROTEST AGAINST RAILWAY.

Objection Made to Electric Road Tracks on Eighth Street.

A letter signed by Messrs. A. H. Thompson, J. Finney Engle, and A. Barnett was recently sent to the Board of Education, protesting against the establishment of a street railroad on Eighth Street, between North Carolina and Pennsylvania Avenues southeast. The writers state that on the square bounded by C, D, Seventh, and Eighth Streets there are located the Eastern High School, the Wallace, and Towers school buildings. It is stated that the entrance for the girls to the Wallace and Towers school buildings is on Eighth Street, and that there are in daily attendance at these schools some 300 pupils, eight years old and under.

"We believe," say the writers, "that the construction and operation of a street railroad along this narrow street would jeopardize the lives of the school children going to and from these buildings. We would, therefore, respectfully ask that the matter be brought to the attention of the Committee on the District of Columbia, House of Representatives, by the Board of Education in order that the objections may receive proper attention."

The Board of Education in forwarding the letter to the Commissioners state that in their opinion the safety of moving cars on Eighth Street, where the two public schools are situated, would seriously menace the safety of the pupils. Several years ago, they say, the tracks were removed from the street in front of the Peabody school building on account of the danger to the pupils, and

the board is agreed that a presentation should be made to the House committee against the establishment of the street railroad as proposed.

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FINED ON THREE CHARGES.

Negro Hotel Waiter Assessed \$30 for Numerous Thefts.

Clarence Lewis, colored, was fined \$30 on each of three charges of petty larceny by Judge Kimball in the United States branch of the Police Court yesterday. He was remanded to jail in default of \$2,000 bond, to await the action of the grand jury.

Hay is the man who was caught by Special Policeman William Young, and was said to be trying to break into a show window on Pennsylvania Avenue about four weeks ago, and shot the officer in the leg while on the way to the station house.

Hay was dressed in soldiers' clothes in court today. It has developed that he belongs to the regular army, and that he has been stationed at Fort Myer. He is about 32 years of age.

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PLEADED NOT GUILTY.

Daniel Hay Remanded to Jail on Assault Charge.

Daniel Hay pleaded not guilty in the United States branch of the Police Court yesterday to a charge of assault with intent to kill, and was remanded to jail in default of \$2,000 bond, to await the action of the grand jury.

Hay is the man who was caught by Special Policeman William Young, and was said to be trying to break into a show window on Pennsylvania Avenue about four weeks ago, and shot the officer in the leg while on the way to the station house.

Hay was dressed in soldiers' clothes in court today. It has developed that he belongs to the regular army, and that he has been stationed at Fort Myer. He is about 32 years of age.

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