

ALL ENROLL DOCTORS IN U. S. MEDICAL CORPS

Provost Marshal General Crowder Allays Fears Regarding Call to Colors

HARD PROBLEM SOLVED

Crowder's Telegram Clears Fog From Medical Skies

To the Editor Evening Ledger:

ANSWERING your wire of last night, it will be the recommendation of this department that all medical men drafted be assigned to the medical corps up to its maximum authorized strength. Registration cards of drafted men furnish all data needed for the classification of specialists among them, and the recommendation that I shall make in regard to drafted medical men will be repeated in the case of other specialists, to the end that they may receive such assignments as will make available to the army their special qualifications.

CROWDER,
Provost Marshal General.

The fears of doctors and others with military training summoned to the colors under the recent draft that they would not have an opportunity of giving the country the benefit of their medical training today were set at rest by a telegram received from Provost Marshal General Crowder in reply to an inquiry from the EVENING LEDGER. In this telegram he stated that all medical corps men would be turned over to the medical corps up to its maximum authorized strength.

There has been great consternation in medical circles here and throughout the country following a memorandum issued by General Gorgas on June 29. In this he refused to turn over to Surgeon General Gorgas the medical men called in the draft. This statement was backed up by Secretary Baker in a memorandum dated June 30, in which he said: "I am constrained to leave his advice in the matter to be correct." The master appeared of such a serious nature to those in a position to appreciate the medical needs of the country that plans were considered for carrying the matter before Congress.

General Gorgas has made an exhaustive study of the subject, having consulted the heads of all leading medical colleges in this country and abroad, and with wireless messages from abroad, notably Col. George Goodwin, of the English Royal Medical Corps, now attached to General Gorgas' staff. Many blunders were made in England at the beginning of the war, and it has been General Gorgas' aim to prevent the waste of medical training in this country. The drafting of trained medical men into other branches of the service would soon result in an entire loss of valuable material for the medical corps, according to General Gorgas.

The plan developed by the surgeon general's office was to have all medical men turned over to it by General Crowder. In this way students could continue their medical studies on furlough until such time as they were fitted to be enrolled in the medical corps, and doctors and others with the most dangerous positions. Such a plan would prevent the loss of trained men, such as took place in England, and would make for the greatest efficiency. It would also provide a continuous supply of doctors for the army and navy.

GENERAL CROWDER'S VIEWS

However, General Crowder did not take kindly to these plans. He refused to turn over the doctors to the Surgeon General and he also insisted that all students should be treated in the same manner as untrained men. He asserted that in his opinion medical students could better complete their training in the army ranks than by continuing their studies for special treatment of medical students." He said:

"I am open-minded on the subject." It was pointed out by medical educators that the colleges would be greatly handicapped by such a plan, and that it was preposterous to say that a medical training could be satisfactorily completed by private in the army, there being no means of giving a medical education on the field. Such action would repeat the blunder made in England of placing trained men in positions too dangerous to such training, as they had had, and were in the contrary to the course advocated by President Wilson of having every man carry his profession to the trenches in so far as possible.

DEFENSE COUNCIL'S IDEA

This statement follows:

The following statement is medical and pre-medical students is posted at the request of the medical board of the Council of National Defense by the advisory commission, and the chief of the medical section of the same body. It is posted with the full approval of the executive officers of this institution.

In the present national crisis a consideration of adequately trained officers is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of armed forces in the field. It would be folly for the country to prepare for the immediate emergency alone.

We must face the possibility of the war lasting for years. It is therefore the patriotic duty of all college students intending to study medicine to remain under arms in the country can avail itself of their trained services.

Medical schools are, in a sense, "munition works" necessary to produce trained medical officers for the army and navy. All medical students must therefore, in the interest of national safety, continue their work until graduation. With the exception of such men as the navy can utilize, all graduates are urged to obtain military training, which the surgeons general of the army and the navy consider essential for their arms of the service.

The telegram received today by the EVENING LEDGER in answer to an inquiry on this point has caused great satisfaction to the medical profession of this city. Superintendent Test of the Pennsylvania Hospital said:

It would seem like a farce to stop the supply of doctors by taking medical students away from their work to do service that could be equally well performed by men without medical training. Before we are through with the war it is certain that all available doctors will be required in their capacity as doctors. To handicap this supply in any way would be a great mistake."

Deaths

AINIE—Suddenly, Aug. 1, LEO, son of Charles and Mary Ainsie, aged 20. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Sat., 8 a.m. High mass St. Raphael's Church 10 a.m. Int. Mt. Carmel Cem. Auto funeral.

BROETTCHER—Suddenly, July 31, WILHELM BROETTCHER, 62, member of Wittenberg Baptist Church. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Mon., 10 a.m. Int. Mt. Carmel Cem. Lamberton, N.J.

CROWDER—Suddenly, July 31, ST. WILHELM BOETTCHER, 62, member of Wittenberg Baptist Church. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Mon., 10 a.m. Int. Mt. Carmel Cem. Lamberton, N.J.

DEACON—Aug. 1, HELEN LOUISE GRIBBS, Binden Ward, Wernersville, Pa. Funeral services at Philadelphia Sat., Aug. 4. GRIFFIN—Aug. 1, ROBERT W. GRIFFIN, 26, of 11th Street, Allentown, Pa. Funeral services invited to funeral, Sat., 12 noon. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

EDDIE—Aug. 1, CHARLES WILLIAM ARMSTRONG, 245 N. Croyleton st. Reliance and Altar Society of Quakertown Court Main No. 24, of City of Quakertown, Pa. Funeral services, Sat., 12 noon. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

FERRETT—Aug. 1, PATRICK FERRITT, widow of Patrick Ferritt, aged 60. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Auto funeral.

GIBSON—Aug. 1, HELEN LOUISE GRIBBS, Binden Ward, Wernersville, Pa. Funeral services at Philadelphia Sat., Aug. 4.

HENRY—Aug. 1, JOHN HENRY HENK, son of Jessie Becker (nee Brannan) and of Catherine and late Henry J. Becker, 104 Darby rd., Sun., 2 p.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends invited to funeral, Sat., 12 noon. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

IORFELD—Aug. 1, CHARLES WILLIAM ARMSTRONG, 245 N. Croyleton st. Reliance and Altar Society of Quakertown Court Main No. 24, of City of Quakertown, Pa. Funeral services invited to funeral, Sat., 12 noon. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

JANE—Aug. 1, MARY JANE, widow of Hugh Greenan, aged 18. Relatives and friends invited to funeral services, Sat., 2 p.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends invited to funeral, Sat., 12 noon. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

KELLY—Aug. 1, ROSE McGINNICHES, widow of Patrick Kelly, aged 26. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

LAWRENCE—Aug. 1, ELIZABETH LAWRENCE, widow of John Lawrence, aged 20. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

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NICHOLS—Aug. 1, ROBERT NICHOLS, son of John Nichols, 104 W. Broad st., Allentown, Pa. Funeral services, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

ODELL—Aug. 1, ROBERT O'DELL, son of John O'Dell, 104 W. Broad st., Allentown, Pa. Funeral services, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

PEARCE—Aug. 1, ROBERT PEARCE, son of John Pearce, 104 W. Broad st., Allentown, Pa. Funeral services, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

QUEENEY—Aug. 1, ANNE QUEENEY, widow of John Queene, 104 W. Broad st., Allentown, Pa. Funeral services, Sat., 10 a.m. Mt. Carmel Cem. Friends may be viewed Fri., 8 to 10 p.m.

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