

APPLAUD WITH FEET

U. S. Medical Officer Describes Picturesque Theatrical Show in Base Hospital

Imagine the receiving ward of a base hospital in France fitted up as a temporary theatre, the makeshift stage at one end, the audience banked in rows of palama-clad soldiers—those on stretchers nearest the stage, the wheel-chair brigades next and those able to walk in the rear.

This is what happened behind the lines in France, according to Major Charles F. Nassau, of the United States Medical Corps, an eyewitness of the strange scene, in which a Canadian unit, the Maple Leaf, gave a theatrical performance before one of the most cosmopolitan audiences ever assembled.

Describing the affair, Major Nassau writes to a relative in this city: "It was a vaudeville show given by one of the regular Canadian army troops who travel from place to place giving performances. They carry their own scenery and properties, which enables them to show in a tent, a barn or any old place they may land.

"The curtain went up before an audience that could not be duplicated any place on earth but in France. The bald-headed rows were not occupied by ladies and gentlemen in evening dress, but the place was filled with stretchers, each occupied by a soldier who could not walk. Their costumes were not made of silk and brocade, but were hospital pajamas, their only jewels the dull glint of a croix de guerre, and for flowers only the snow-white bandages in which their wounds were wrapped.

"There were French, British, Canadian, Americans, Arabs, Senegalese and Moors, and their language ranged from cackling English to the dialects of northern Africa.

"Behind the stretchers were the wheeled chairs, and behind those the wounded who could walk. We officers stood up outside the doors, as did an American brigadier general.

"The applause was different from any I ever heard. Some had two hands with which to clap, many did not; some feet to stamp, more without; and some poor devils could only grin. After the performance the stretcher cases had to be carried back to bed, each occupant with a grin on his face and primed with a vivid description of the evening with which to regale his less fortunate comrades in the ward."

GET ARMY COMMISSIONS U. P. Professor's Son Among Philadelphia's Winning Honors

Philip Werner Amram, son of David Werner Amram, professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania and a candidate in bankruptcy, has received a commission as second lieutenant of infantry. He has been assigned to service with the students army training corps unit at Harvard. Lieutenant Amram was a student last year at Penn.

HOSPITAL UNIT NEAR NAPLES Jefferson and Episcopal Workers Are Located in Italy

A letter received here from Major J. Norman Henry, director of the Jefferson Hospital unit, conveys the information that the contingent from Jefferson and that from the Episcopal Base Hospital are located within a few miles of each other outside Naples, Italy. In part his letter says:

"We are in a so-called base hospital center and occupy some fish buildings, each of which is but one-story in height, and erected by our Government. There are two other such centers in the same grounds and the Episcopal of Philadelphia is about three miles away. The grounds are those of an old chateau, about one and one-half miles outside Naples. We are permitted to mention that, but we do not use it as a public address.

"Shortly after our arrival we began to take in sick and wounded soldiers, and in an incredibly brief period of preparation, we were virtually running full blast."

PHILADELPHIAN IS CITED Corporal Starr Is Mailing Home the Story of Bravery

Corporal Morris H. Starr, attached to the supply station of the Thirty-ninth Infantry and in active service for several months at the battlefield, has written to his mother, who lives at 2630 North Seventeenth street, announcing his citation.

"We have been very active, on the move constantly," he writes, "and to show that life is not a picnic, I have had to go to the hospital several times. Several times we have been compelled to go without food for as long as twenty-four hours. However, our regiment has won the highest praise from General Pershing, and I am writing you a citation home to you. It tells the story of the first time our regiment was sent over the top. We have captured numerous towns and many Hunns."

TRIED TO STEAL LIQUOR Accused Philadelphia Must Clean Streets in Gloucester

"Two days at clashing the streets." This was the sentence meted out today to Isaac D. Murray, of Eighth and Locust streets, this city, for attempting to steal a bottle of whisky in Gloucester.

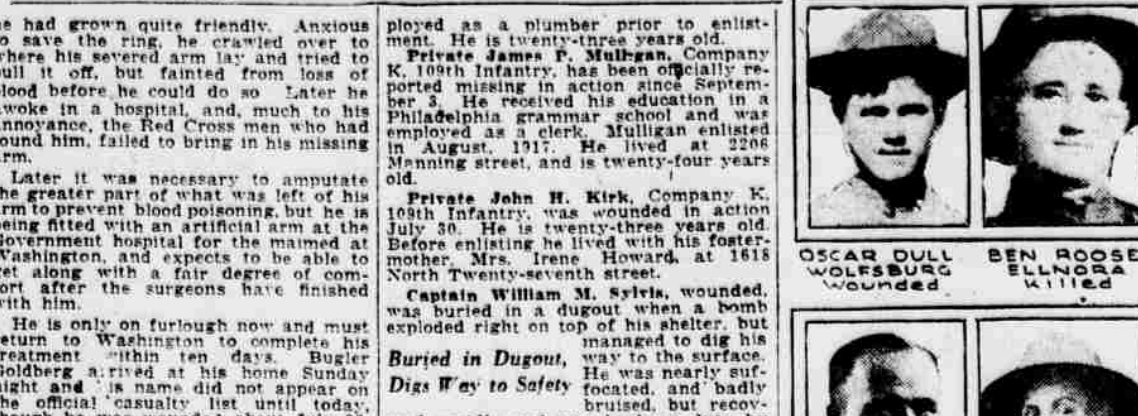
Murray was arraigned before Mayor Anderson, of Gloucester. Testimony showed that Murray tried to decoy William and Joseph Walton into a deserted section of the city to get their whisky. He failed to get the bottle.

Lieut. C. W. Drew Given War Cross

Confusion from Pass One population can never last through another winter," he told his family, "and it is doubtful whether the army could stick it out that long."

Bugler Goldberg was gassed at the Marne early in July, but recovered and rejoined his regiment just in time to get into the thick of the fighting at Chateau Thierry. He was charging up a hill when a shrapnel shell burst near him, blowing off part of his left arm. He remained unconscious, and when his senses he looked around and saw his arm lying near him. On a

FREEDOM'S HALL OF FAME



had grown quite friendly. Anxious to save the ring, he crawled over to where his arm lay and tried to pull it off, but he could do so. Later he awoke in a hospital, and much to his annoyance, the Red Cross men who had found him, failed to bring in his missing arm.

Later it was necessary to amputate the greater part of what was left of his arm to prevent blood poisoning, but he is being fitted with an artificial arm at the Government hospital for the maimed at Washington, and expects to be able to get along with a fair degree of comfort after the surgeons have finished with him.

He is only on furlough now and must return to Washington to complete his treatment "within ten days. Bugler Goldberg tried at his home Sunday night and his name did not appear on the official casualty list until today, though he was wounded about six weeks ago. His injury had been reported unofficially, however. He has been in this country about six weeks but this is his first visit to his family.

Lieutenant Frank Strong, of the army transportation corps, accidentally injured by a train, is the first railroad man from this city to be sent home from France. His railroad accident was crushed by a while he was trying to straighten out a traffic tangle at an important junction near the front line. Surgeons tried hard to save the foot, but in the end amputation was necessary. The lieutenant is now at a Washington hospital recovering from the effects of the operation.

Lieutenant Strong was formerly a division engineer of the Los Angeles and California Railroad, and responded to the call for skilled railroad men to help organize an efficient transportation service in France. He enlisted in March of this year, was promptly given a captain's commission and sent overseas at once. The lieutenant was born in Philadelphia, educated at the local public schools and took his engineering degree at Norwich University, Northfield, Vt. He is thirty-nine years old. In 1912 Lieutenant Strong married Miss Margaret Fairer, daughter of William J. Fairer, of this city.

Corporal William F. Hanson, killed in action, was employed in the pressroom of the Curtis Publishing Company. At the time of his enlistment, in April of last year, a few days after his country, entered the war and two days before he was twenty-one years old, the corps was sent to France. His regiment is largely made up of drafted men from Philadelphia and Delaware.

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AVIATOR FLEW DOWN PRISONER

Lieutenant Fell 1000 Yards, His Airplane in Flames

After a fall of 1000 feet, his airplane in flames, Lieutenant S. Ellison McKee, of the Philadelphia Army Air Corps, was reported as a prisoner of war in a German prison camp.

Lieutenant McKee was reported killed when he was knocked down by a German aviator from a height of 20,000 feet.

News that he is safe came through a letter to a friend here written from Festungs Lazarett, J. Gernersheim, on the Rhine, Germany.

He was brought down on July 7, he writes, "after five months on the front. I am receiving excellent medical treatment and don't think I'll have many marks of my wounds. It is a miracle that I'm alive, for I fell nearly 1000 yards in flames. I'll write you when I'm able to. If convenient, send me some smokes. I need a smoke badly."

HERE'S A BUSY OFFICER Army Doctor Even Reorganizes a Laundry

The life of a young first lieutenant in the medical corps overseas is not a sinecure, if the daily routine observed by Lieutenant McKee can be taken as a criterion.

His recent letter tells the young officer tells his mother, Louise A. Langdon, 529 East Chelton avenue, Germantown, that he has enough to do to keep three men busy.

He was brought down behind the lines. This done, he was given charge of the plant to keep him occupied while not engaged in the performance of his duties as detachment commander and evacuation officer.

The latter means that he must arrange for ambulances and trains to be ready when the wounded are sent to the base hospitals in the rear. During a big drive it is often necessary for a lieutenant to see to the removal of as many as 500 patients in a few hours.

PRaised FOR SAFETY PLANS Employes' Co-operation Reduces Accidents at Frankford Arsenal

Congratulations have been extended to Captain C. C. Black, safety engineer, to the employes of the Frankford Arsenal for their safety first work which has decreased the accidents during September, according to a report just compiled, 15% per cent.

The biggest reduction was made by the tractor shop, Mr. Schwindt, foreman, which made a 62 1/2 per cent reduction in could-be-prevented accidents, and is followed by the optical shop, with 52 per cent.

The other shops showing a decrease are: incendiary shop, Mr. Partridge, foreman, 43 1/2; small arms packing, Mr. Kaplan, 37 1/2 per cent; machine shop, Mr. Adams, 30 per cent; an artillery assembling shop, Mr. Miller, foreman, 20 per cent; sight shop, Mr. Furey, foreman, 20 per cent, and the tin shop, Mr. Brand.

INFLUENZA GROWS IN CAMPS Arrival of New Recruits Given as Reason for Increase

Washington, Oct. 23.—Both influenza and pneumonia showed a sharp increase at army camps during the forty-eight hours ending at noon yesterday, the cause being ascribed by the surgeon general to the arrival of new men at camps in the South and Southwest.

Sunday's total of influenza cases jumped to 2438 from the low record of 1802 reported Saturday, and there was a further increase yesterday to 2331 cases. Pneumonia cases Sunday were 435, against 394 the day before. Yesterday's figure was 431. Deaths, however, continue to decline, with 193 Sunday and 194 yesterday.

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CITED AMBULANCE DRIVER

LOST FEAR ON BATTLEFIELD

Could Think Only of Wounded, Says Thomas Webster, Brave Philadelphian

Describes Moans of Injured as He Drives Through Shell Holes in Darkness

"DO not fear a thing when I can help those who are helpless." This statement is made by Private Thomas Webster, a Philadelphian now driving an ambulance in France, who has received divisional citation for the Croix de Guerra for "undoubted courage and enthusiasm."

In writing to his mother, at 6057 Reinhard street, Private Webster, who before entering the service was an employe of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER, refrains from telling of the honor he has won on the battlefield. His citation says he "proceeded without hesitation to the firing line, working until entirely exhausted."

"I am still at it," he writes to his mother, "and maybe this is not the life. This driving at the front is sure in the first, but you soon get used to it and go without much sleep."

Nothing Holds You Back "When you see the men in the trenches fighting for liberty and country—giving their lives for them—there is nothing that will hold you back. You just forget about the danger and think only of those you can be of some help to."

"We have had at times, especially at night, when we strain our eyes in the darkness and ever muscle in our bodies in driving back with the wounded. You must make time and be careful. Oh, man when you hit a shell hole. And you must never use a light. All that is called for is darkness and swiftness."

In a second letter written during the fighting from August 9 to August 12, when Private Webster was cited, he wrote: "Well, this war will soon end, and

we will return to our loved ones who we know are waiting for us. But there are no more of our brave boys who will not return.

"On one front the Americans were holding we saw them fight until there was nothing left but dead Hunns. We had a very hard battle there, and many of the Americans were wounded. Those I cared for I lost, and I know what it is to be lost on the battlefield."

Gassed by Germans It was in this battle that Private Webster was gassed by the Germans. In his letter he tells of meeting an American nurse in the hospital where he was confined. He added that after he recovered from the effects of the gas poisoning he used to go back to the hospital to see the wounded Germans who had been captured.

"There are two French nurses taking care of them," he wrote. "They are very young, but they sure do know how to handle the Germans." Private Webster enlisted in the ambulance corps in May of last year. He trained at Allentown, and sailed for France Christmas night, 1917.

THOMAS WEBSTER

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Table with 2 columns: YOUR ALLOTMENT (\$300,000) and YOU SUBSCRIBED (\$1,062,500). Total: \$1,062,500

Figures announced today are— Manufacturers \$895,450; Jobbers \$67,400; Retailers \$80,600; Total \$1,062,500

Every man and woman who worked on the Loan campaign is entitled to feel proud and happy. Remember the Victory Loan to come. Keep on your toes to subscribe our quota on the first day.

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