

THE RED CROSS

IN CHARGE OF

JANE A. DELANO, R.N.

Chairman National Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service

THE G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

BY ANNA J. GREENLEES, R.N.

As chairman of the Red Cross Nursing Service Committee of the District of Columbia, I respectfully submit the report on the work of the enrolled nurses in connection with the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic for the week ending October 2.

There were four stations, located at Camp Emery, Union Station, the Pension Office and the Field Hospital. Total number of cases treated—339.

The nurses reported for duty at Camp Emery, the headquarters of the veterans, and the Union Station, on the Saturday previous to the opening of the encampment, remaining on duty a week, and the wisdom of this action was shown in the number of cases treated Saturday and Sunday. Our nurses always faithful to duty, never answered the call with more alacrity nor worked with greater fervor than in the services rendered the 20,000 or more veterans. It was a duty of affection and gratitude by women of a later generation to the venerable veterans who, fifty years ago, cemented the foundation of the greatest nation of the world, and each nurse felt she owed much more than she was giving in time and labor for their physical comfort. When it is stated that the vast majority of the multitude who marched on Wednesday in that great parade were men who had passed the allotted age of three score and ten, their average age being 73, the work of relief at the Red Cross stations can be easily imagined. Made decrepit by the inroads of time, these heroes of fifty years ago, buoyed by patriotism, bravely withstood the feebleness of age and marched proudly between the lines of cheering thousands to be reviewed by the president of the nation they had made possible. Involuntarily tears welled the eyes and the heart beats quickened as this remnant of the greatest army the country ever mustered passed in review. It was a vivid illustration of patriotism of a passing generation, a sight which indelibly sunk into the heart of every onlooker and it will go down in history as one of the

grandest and most pathetic lessons in loyalty ever witnessed in our nation's capital.

As to the work in detail, I append the reports of each station.

It would be remiss not to comment on the great service of our young Americans, the Boy Scouts. They were here, there and every where, aiding the old, caring for the weak, and giving first aid like skilled members of a hospital corps. One illustration will suffice to show the application of their teaching in hygiene and sanitation. Along the line of march each Scout had a canteen filled with cold water. A Scout was appealed to by a woman for a drink. She got it, but before he gave the next one a drink out of the same canteen, he polished the mouthpiece till it glistened in the sunlight. The polishing cloth looked very much like his handkerchief but, be that as it may, it was a demonstration to the amused spectators of his training in the dangers of microbes.

Miss Josephine Johnson, who had charge of Camp Emery, reported 203 cases treated during the week. Miss Reed, in charge of the Union Station Hospital, gave 65 patients receiving treatment. Miss Culbertson of the Pension Office stated that their duty was not very active but that they were fully occupied, receiving the visitors, answering their questions and listening to their war-time stories. Twenty cases were treated. Miss Melhorn, who had charge of the Field Hospital, reported 51 cases, forty-five of whom were brought in, in the course of three hours, on the day of the parade.

THE JOURNAL AS A CHRISTMAS GIFT

The JOURNAL's Christmas certificate which was issued last year was received with warm approval. These certificates may be had again this year; they are sent from the Rochester office, on request, to a person to whom a subscription to the JOURNAL is sent as a Christmas gift. If it is desired that the December issue of the JOURNAL should reach the recipient by Christmas Day, the order must be received by November 15th. If the subscription is to begin with the January issue, the order should state that clearly.

GREETINGS

The editor of the JOURNAL has been greatly gratified upon the receipt of the following telegram: The Arkansas State Graduate Nurses' Association now in session sends greetings upon this fifteenth anniversary of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Copies of the Convention number of the JOURNAL may be obtained from the Rochester office at 25 cents each.