

Doctors Ready to Go, at Tremendous Sacrifice

War Will Stop Incomes Ranging as High as \$140,000—Brewer, Coe, McKernon, Lambert, Morris, Hammond, and Gibney on List

BACK of the Government's announcement calling to service in France the American hospital units of the Army Medical Reserve Corps are hidden the largest sacrifices of personal income in the name of patriotism that this country has ever seen. In the units called last week, as well as in the large cities that stand ready to be called, and in the general membership of the Army Medical Reserve Corps outside of the organized units, are included leading surgeons and physicians of the United States. The highest professional income in the corps is said to be \$140,000, earned annually heretofore by a New York surgeon. In the seven hospital units of this city it is estimated that there are more than sixteen men with an annual income from fees exceeding \$50,000. The number with incomes above \$25,000 is much larger.

In answering the call to service these men are volunteering their incomes along with themselves. They leave their practices behind them; the income either ceases, or, in the hands of another, is reduced to a fraction of its former size. About half of the offices of those who go will be closed, according to one New York surgeon who is expected to be summoned at any time. This definite action of simply shutting up shop is taken because past experience among medical men shows that the personal factor is such a large element in practice that, in the hands of a substitute, it soon tends to disintegrate.

The highest pay available for members of the Medical Reserve Corps as army surgeons is \$3,000, and this is only for those holding the rank of Major; the sum ranges down to \$1,500 for Lieutenants. Dr. George Emerson Brewer, head of the Columbia University Hospital unit of New York, ordered to France last week, has one of the largest professional incomes in the country; with his going to the service of his country this is reduced to a salary of \$3,000.

In every large city in the country leaders of the medical profession, as members of the corps, stand ready to accept a similar summary reduction in income, for, while incomes are largest in New York, there are in the organization outside of New York many who make above \$25,000 a year. The Mayo brothers of Rochester, Minn., whose annual earnings have been placed at \$250,000, are subject to call as members of the corps. In order to find a parallel to this renunciation by the men at the top of the medical profession in another vocation, one would have to imagine, say, the leading railroad executives of the country pledging themselves to resign their positions to go to France to serve their country when notified to do so from Washington; not only that, but, in order to make the parallel complete, they would have to face the situation, on their return, of building themselves up again in the railroad business.

Dr. Henry C. Coe, Major of the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States Army and President of the Examining Board for New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, which has a recruiting office for the corps at the Academy of Medicine, commented on the situation as follows:

"It is a case, one might say, of earning power dropping from \$30,000 a year to \$3,000 or under; but it is remarkable how many of the men at the top of the profession all over the country have enlisted in the corps. In many cases they have expensive establishments and usually heavy life insurance to maintain, and, no matter what professional responsibilities are upon them when the call comes, they stand ready to drop everything, like leaving the plow in the furrow, and go. I do not think one will find anything like it in any other calling. But doctors did the same thing during the civil war; they are brought up to making sacrifices. I believe it is fair to say that they give one-third of their services to charity, and this is especially true of the chief men in the profession.

"If they could come back to their

practice as they left it the case would be different, but that can't be arranged. There is no way to keep a practice together while the man who built it is away. That is notably true of this city. I know of two physicians who were called to the Mexican border with the guard; they had just begun to rebuild their

practice, and now they must go out again.

"It is undoubtedly a great sacrifice for physicians to make, but we are urging them to do so as their duty. The first question asked is, 'What is to become of my practice?' In some instances the situation is such that we do not feel justified in advising them to

volunteer, but the answer we usually make is, 'You must arrange that yourself.' Of course, I refer to men with smaller incomes, of which naturally the greater number of the corps is composed.

"The rate of volunteering among the older men and those of largest incomes is higher than that of any other class; among the younger men, and especially among those just out of school, the recruiting is slower than it should be. We are doing all we can to stimulate it, as a large army will have a great need of trained doctors. For the army we expect to raise we shall require from 15,000 to 20,000 doctors. There are 450 in the regular army service. The rest will have to be obtained from volunteers, for there is no law for the conscription of doctors. The number now subject to call in the Medical Reserve Corps is about 3,500. Four hundred of these are from New York. We want 2,000 from New York State."

Besides the Columbia University-Presbyterian Hospital Unit, with Dr. George E. Brewer as Director, already called into service, the other units subject to call, which contain besides their Directors other members of large annual incomes, are: Bellevue Hospital Unit, Dr. George D. Stewart, Director; Roosevelt Hospital Unit, Dr. Charles H. Peck, Director; Post Graduate Hospital Unit, Dr. Samuel Lloyd, Director; Mount Sinai Hospital Unit, Dr. Nathan Brill, Director; German Hospital Unit, Dr. Fred Kammerer, Director; New York Hospital Unit, Dr. Charles L. Gibson, Director.

Others who as members of the Medical Reserve Corps will sacrifice their incomes when the call comes are: Dr. James F. McKernon, Major of the New York corps; Dr. Alexander Lambert, Dr. Robert T. Morris, Dr. V. P. Gibney, Dr. William S. Bryant, Dr. J. Bayard Clark, Dr. Henry Clarke Coe, Dr. Thomas Darlington, Dr. William B. De Garmo, Dr. Richard Derby, Dr. E. C. Dunham, Dr. James Ewing, Dr. Howard Fox, Dr. G. M. Hammond, Dr. John A. Hartwell, Dr. Harold M. Hays, Dr. J. Herbert Lawson, Dr. Leon T. Le Wald, Dr. W. Meyer, Dr. John Rogers, and Dr. Samuel M. Strong.

A hospital unit has a personnel of from 225 to 250; from 20 to 25 doctors, including surgeons, internes, and specialists, and from 50 to 60 nurses. The unit carries all equipment to set up 500 beds. Those that have been ordered to France from this country, it is understood, are to proceed at once to the rear of Haig's army "somewhere in France," where there is a hospital with 40,000 beds under canvas.

"The calling of the American units," said a New York surgeon who is in touch with the preparedness movement among the medical men of this city, "is on account of the victorious advance of Haig's army. You see, each gain brings not only his own wounded into the field hospitals, but also the wounded among the captured Germans. An army driving an enemy before it always lays heavier burdens on the medical staff. We understand the English doctors are fairly worn out and need some one to relieve them, so that our leading surgeons are not only resigning their incomes and their practices in going over, but also will work probably longer hours than they do at home—and that is saying a good deal, for eighteen hours is not an exceptional turn for a busy man here. A successful surgeon in peace times has all the calls on his time he can spare and still be able to keep his health."

Already America has rendered signal service in the hospital work of the war in Europe. This has centered in France around the American Ambulance Hospital, the hospital of Dr. Alexis Carrel of the Rockefeller Institute, and the hospital of Dr. Joseph Blake. These three institutions have been supported altogether by American money. Besides this service, the discoveries of Dr. Carrel and Dr. H. D. Dakin regarding the treatment of wounds have been a valuable contribution to medical war work in France.

The BATTLE CALL OF ALLIANCE

A Hymn for Music

By PERCY MACKAYE



(To be sung, to music by Reginald de Koven, by chorus of 1,000 voices at the University of Pennsylvania Masque at Philadelphia, May 14-19.)

Awake! Awake! The winds of dawn
Blow fire across the world;
The ships go forth where dangers spawn
And coils of death are curled;
And souls of men go forth with them
And hearts of men aspire,
New kindled by the ancient flame
Of Man's immortal fire:

Come forth! Come forth with Freedom
To end the reign of czars:
America across the deep
Unfurls her flaming stars!

Arise! Renew with nobler dreams
The faith we name our own:
The bugle calls to vaster schemes
Which God hath dreamed alone.
To save a planet's liberties
He joineth now our hands
With brothers fighting overseas
Among the ruined lands.

Rise up! Rise up with Freedom
To end the reign of czars:
America across the storm
Unfurls her flaming stars!

To arms! To arms! Allied with those
Who battle to make free,
In red, red pain we plant the rose
Of white Democracy;
For that white flower, a holy sign,
Shall keep our hearts allied
When tyrant lords and all their line
Are perished in their pride.

To arms! To arms for Freedom
And end the reign of czars:
America—America
Unfurls her flaming stars!