

S. F. GIRLS AID IN FIGHT TO CONQUER 'FLU'

Thirty-Six of City's Best Known
Society Belles Work Day and
Night as Ambulance Drivers

Members of Motor Corps of Red
Cross Brave Danger of Disease
to Succor Victims of Epidemic

Under the stern discipline of exact military organization, their identity lost save for the cold blunt call of surname and title, sacrificing everything of comfort and home, of tender surroundings and social life, the San Francisco Red Cross Motor Corps, thirty-six of the city's society belles, has responded to the great cry for help in the influenza epidemic.

They are going into every quarter of the city. They are entering the hovels and the hotels, the homes and the open places for victims, bringing succor to mothers, to fathers, to children bereft of parents, to the helpless, to the stranger wherever the call, there the gray-clad women go night and day to relieve.

For days this corps of girls, many of them reared in the most exclusive circumstance, have labored. Hours count for naught. Ten to eighteen hours a day this ambulance contingent is at its duty.

No call is too far distant. They go to waterfront lodging houses, into the alleys and the byways, all in the day's work.

DANGERS IGNORED.

Exposed to the disease, they work. Captain Kamm gives the order:

"Private Casserly, Private Clam-
pett, Private St. Goar." And so it
goes.

Thirty-six women in the corps and their only distinction is between the officers' designation and the privates.

The transport equipment consists of the three ambulances owned by the corps and twenty volunteer cars donated. More could be used.

Under the Board of Health they are working. Besides the regular duties of the corps, under Lieutenant Keeney, transportation for the army and the Twelfth Naval district is still maintained, from the Garfield building corps headquarters.

Nurses, doctors and supplies are moved rapidly. The ill are succored. In one home was found a father carrying his dead babe in his arms, lest the mother, herself stricken with pneumonia, should die if told, as she was being taken to a hospital.

Four stricken children were found helpless in a Potrero home, the mother dead from the disease and the father dying in a hospital.

In a miserable waterfront place a man dying from pneumonia was taken out of filth, the victim almost unrecognizable from the dirt on him.

FACES FRENZIED MOB.

A call from the Latin Quarter for two sisters stricken took the girl driver into a frenzied crowd of dwellers there for relief. She escaped with difficulty, so pressed was the plea for assistance from stricken households.

Lieutenant Garret is in charge of the ambulance service.

Lieutenant Brandenstein covers the Board of Health.

Lieutenant Treat is stationed at the Red Cross headquarters, 30 Montgomery street.

The ambulance calls are all handled thence by the corps.

Shifts were established early in the epidemic of 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. and 7 p. m. to 1:30 a. m. But those hours means nothing if there is more to do.

The corps is grateful for the help that has been given to them by the donated cars and for the work of the sailor stretcher bearers. They will do their share, just as the Red Cross bearers are doing their share on the battle fields of the old world.

There the war is now against the bullet and shell and gas.

Here it is against the disease that holds for the time the city and its people in its grasp.

Here are the women of the San Francisco Red Cross Motor Corps:

Captain Kamm, Lieutenants Garret, Brandenstein, Treat and Keeney; Privates Ayres, Baker, Bertheau, Buchanan, Boyd, Clamptt, Casserly, Davidson, Evans, Grant, Hathaway, Hirschman, Lindreth, Lewin, Newman, Podasta, Pope, Prather, Raich, Ross, Schweitzer, H. Son, B. Son, Stein, St. Goar, Tubbs, Van Ward, Williams, Winslow, Pearson, Tibbers and Terlington.

Epidemic Subsiding Throughout Country

WASHINGTON, October 24.—Further subsidence of the influenza epidemic over the country was indicated in reports received today by the public health service from forty-four States. The situation still is serious in many localities, however, and more particularly in the larger cities.

There was practically no change today in army camps, 2,772 new cases being reported, a decrease of one from yesterday's total. Pneumonia cases decreased from 742 yesterday to 699 today and deaths were 307 against 327 the day before. The total of influenza cases reported now is 298,276, pneumonia cases 48,328, and deaths 16,174.

Camps Dix, N. J., and Grant, Ill., where influenza epidemics have been particularly serious, did not report a single new case, while only seven were reported from Camp Devens, Mass. The largest number of new cases reported today was from Camp McClellan, Ala., with 123.

Arkansas reported today that the peak had been passed in the larger towns, but that conditions were more serious in the rural districts. Connecticut reported a general decline in the number of cases, but that the disease still is active in the larger cities. California has reported a total of 15,700 cases.

In Florida deaths in the cities and towns increased rapidly early this month, but they now show a sharp decrease. In Arizona the disease is spreading to some extent in the mining districts, but elsewhere is on the decline. The total cases reported in Colorado is 11,432, while in other Far Western States the disease is epidemic in most cities.

Improvement is shown in Washington and Oregon, as well as California. In the Northwest conditions continue serious, particularly in Minnesota, but in the States bordering on the Mississippi river there is a decline in the number of new cases.

Over the South and East generally improvement is shown, but the disease still is active in most of the larger cities, including New York, where 769 deaths were reported today; Boston, Providence (R. I.), Philadelphia, Washington, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Chicago and Louisville.

Actress Dies After Husband.

HELENA (Mont.), October 24.—Mrs. Arthur M. Moon of Salt Lake City, Utah, aged 24, an actress, died here to-day of pneumonia. Her husband died on October 16 of the same disease. Both were playing on a vaudeville circuit.