

Personal.

WE regret the loss to our Unit, recently, of three of our original officers—Lieut.-Col. Blanchard, Major Gardner, and Captain Mann. All three specialised in surgery, and were M.O.s of the highest standing. Their most conscientious, valuable, and constant services out here for over a year and a half, where first-hand surgery is vital to the saving of life, can never be estimated. In the new field of labour which they have chosen we wish them all success and happiness.

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Lieut.-Col. J. L. Biggar, who succeeded Lieut.-Col. Blanchard in the Command of this Unit, took over his new duties at the beginning of November, and has already in many ways demonstrated to all ranks his ability to manage in an efficient way a Unit of this nature. Not only is he a clever M.O., but also a keen administrator, and everyone who has met our new Colonel has been very favourably impressed by his personality. The REVIEW sincerely hopes that he will have a happy and pleasant sojourn with us as O.C.

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We regret the loss of one of our originals, Sergt. Milne, who fell ill in England while on leave. His illness, we understand, is not very serious, so there is no cause for alarm.

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We are also sorry to have lost Nursing Sisters Coulter and Nesbitt, who were attached to us for some months, and rendered invaluable service.

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May success and happiness crown the efforts of Pte. A. R. Wilkins, who forsook us just lately, having obtained a position as dispenser at No. 2 C.C.S. No. 2 have in him a good man.

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On behalf of the boys, the REVIEW wishes to thank Nursing Sister Marston sincerely for the good wishes and cigars kindly sent us at Christmas time. Miss Marston is now at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital. May her stay there be pleasant, and may 1918 bring her much happiness.

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Corpl. Kirkpatrick is now recognised by all to be the footballer. His ability as referee has become undisputed. His decisions are just and final. This was evidenced by the recent inter-league matches, at which he handled the whistle to the complete satisfaction of all.

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Pte. Dupee, who left this station some time ago without his appendix, is now convalescent, and we hope to see him again shortly.

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By kind permission of the Colonel, the canteen was open on New Year's Eve from 10.30 to 12.30, thus to watch the passing of the Old Year. Between the cups there was an impromptu programme—very varied. The Colonel stepped in for a few minutes and said a few words, which were very encouraging and backed by much logic. Corpl. Reid responded nobly on behalf of the boys. The New Year came in amid the chatter of many voices, the shriek of whistles from neighbouring locomotives, and the roar of the British artillery. We trust that Fritz accepted the latter greeting with the spirit usual at this season.

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Congratulations are in order to Q.M.S. Woods. Sam slipped one over us while on leave, sang the well-known "Good-bye, Bachelor Boys," and is now a benedict. May the couple have every happiness in 1918, and may their separation owing to the War be short.

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Our welcome to Nursing Sisters Carpenter, Gray, Morewood, Thompson, Arnoldi, Bradley, and Stevenson, who have been recently attached to this Unit.

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We learn through official sources that Jack Budge, our old Quartermaster-Sergeant, has taken out a Commission as Lieut.-Quartermaster at the Granville Canadian Special Hospital. Well done, Jack!

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Captain A. H. Denoon, who has been on two weeks' leave to Rome, Italy, is back with us again. He reports an enjoyable trip, and talks very encouragingly of the general conditions there. We can look forward to an interesting article from him in the next issue.

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We are all pleased to learn that Nursing Sister M. E. Bruce has been awarded the Royal Red Cross of the first order. She was one of us all summer, and is now at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital.

Hank's "High-faluting Hollies," OR Skinny Graham's "Christmas Revue."

AT last "Skinny" has demonstrated to the members of this Unit his ability as a theatrical troupe promoter. For the coming season he has gathered together some of the best Army artists in the country, and now it is up to the members of this Unit—commissioned ranks or otherwise—to back it up and make it a success.

"The Hollies," after much hard work at rehearsing, gave the first show Christmas night, and, like the good wine, being left to the last, proved a fitting climax to the day's festivities. It was immediately pronounced a great success. So many engagements were made on the opening night that, so far, the troupe has not been able to catch up with their dates.

The nature of the show is similar to that of a revue or army pierrot troupe with only first-class turns.

Dvr. Hopwood along with Pte. Grinston are the leading singers, and sing such catchy songs that before they are half through their "turn," the audience is singing with them.

Pte. Forster has an excellent naval song, which he renders very well indeed. He makes a "top hole" middy, too.

For reciting in a correct, forcible manner, Pte. Wilson takes the cake. He has two good selections, which he recites excellently, especially the second one—"Mending the Hole in the Road."

Pte. Young also commands the audience's attention from first to last (when he appears). Pte. Young is one of "Skinny's" importations, and has more than proved that in him the manager certainly obtained a "find," and not a "slim" one. He possesses an excellent voice, and was encored and encored at various times during the initial performance. No doubt his success is largely due to his teacher and prompter, Corpl. Couch.

The real success and the "real find" of the show, however, is "Skinny's" female importation from Paris—Mlle. Nevada. The main attraction of the show, she was immediately pronounced a wonder and a stage beauty not to be surpassed. She wasn't looking her best on the opening night, due to a mishap with a primus stove while getting her midday meal. The stove exploded, and her eyebrows and lashes went "west"; but nevertheless, devoid of these she made a great hit with the boys. The charm and "come hither" look in her eye, her slender form, her graceful step, and her well-turned ankle simply carried everything before her. Just as the performance was nearing a close she was the recipient of a huge bouquet of hop leaves, the only flowers obtainable out here. If the real flowers were not there, the real spirit was, so she should worry, we imagine.

To Pte. Stillman comes the credit of having rendered most artistically two old-time favourite standard songs which always find a hearty response from the "Tommies."

It leaked out afterwards from behind the scenes that Pte. Forster was the driving force that brought that evening's happy entertainment to a "first chop" state of excellence, though needless to say each individual member was inspired to do his utmost and gratify the wishes of the audience, who filled the house to overflowing, the boys having turned out to a man.

Pte. Barker, at the piano, reversed the old childhood admonition, and was heard but not seen. His work, however, requires no comment, as we all know him as a musician of the first water.

Taken as a whole, the show is very satisfactory, and the REVIEW wishes it every success. May it blazon forth, by its repeated performances and successes, the fair name of the 3rd Can. C.C.S.

"WANTED" By most of us.

A recreation hut,
Christmas Day every week,
More pay,
A few stripes,
Letters from home,
To stop "Taking in,"
Less stew,
Leave to Canada,
Na poo Fritz,
Warmer weather,
A change,
Through ticket to Blighty (by the patients),
A sight of Portage Avenue.