

THE BLISTER

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EDITORIAL

There should be some good reason for the publication of any paper. We have several and they're all good, but the best of the lot -- sufficient unto itself in fact -- is the opportunity it affords us to extend our heartiest congratulations to the O. C., Officers, Nursing Sisters, N. C. O. 's and Men on the completion of a year of successful service. The year was up on May 30. Part of it was spent in preliminary work, organisation, training, etc., the latter half on active service. It has seen us through a wealth of experience and on many of us it has left a kaleidoscopic series of vivid impressions, for much of what we saw and heard and did was entirely new to us. It brought us trials and aggravations galore, as was to be expected, but it compensated with pleasures in plenty. Whatever our personal feelings in the matter, however, whether we liked it or didn't like it the fact remains that during the year the unit established an enviable record for excellence of work accomplished. So efficient has our system been proved to be that other hospitals

have not hesitated to copy from it; so thorough (all circumstances considered) the comforts and so satisfactory the medical attention provided that No. 5 C. G. H. is now generally known in this part of the war zone as a very desirable place in which to be sick. We could publish a whole volume of reliable testimony to this effect but we won't. Suffice it to say that from the highest official in the service, as well as from the humblest victim of PUO, the word has been passed--- No 5 CGH is all right. Just a few bald facts relating to our work: Before embarking on Active Service we administered the Shorncliffe Military Hospital for about two months and it was during our term that the capacity of the hospital was raised from 350 beds to its present number, 434. Rarely did we have more than half a dozen vacant beds, this being the number held for emergency cases. In addition the unit sent drafts of officers, nursing sisters and men, amounting altogether to about half the strength, to assist in other hospitals in England and France. Since establishing our tent hospital here in December we have never lacked for work and at times it has come