

THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN

FOR METROPOLITAN NURSES

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LEGION OF MERIT AWARD GOES TO DR. (COLONEL) LANZA



Dr. Anthony J. Lanza, whom many of you know, returned to the Company on January 1st of this year, after three years of service with the War Department. Dr. Lanza's work as head of the Division of Occupational Health in the Preventive Medicine Service of the Surgeon General's Office was of such value that he has been awarded the prized Legion of Merit! Surgeon General Kirk made the presentation in Washington, D. C. on April 2nd, with the following citation:

"Colonel Anthony J. Lanza, 0439418, Medical Corps, Army of the United States. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services from March 1942 to December 1944. Colonel Lanza contributed in a high degree to the development of the Army's present industrial health program for civilian workers in Army owned and operated industrial plants. He organized for the Surgeon General a

special health service which protects the health of almost a million civilian workers in Army industrial plants, thus contributing to the uninterrupted flow of munitions. To this task he brought a rich background of special knowledge and experience which was applied with energy, intelligence and wisdom. Largely due to his efforts, the present effective and well organized program of industrial medicine has been developed and he thus contributed in a high degree to the success of the Army's program of Preventive Medicine."

Since many of you have at some time met and worked with Dr. Lanza, I am sure you will be much interested to learn of the award which he has received as a result of his accomplishing a tremendously important job. Certainly some of you will again have an opportunity of working with him in the future. He will of course again head the Industrial Health Service and carry on much important work in cooperation with the Medical, Group, and Statistical Divisions; at the same time giving the Nursing and other Welfare Bureaus the benefit of his invaluable experience. I need hardly say that we are most happy to welcome Dr. Lanza home once more.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. Armstrong".

Second Vice-President

NURSING BUREAU • WELFARE DIVISION • METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

SALUTE TO THE STAFF ON THE HOME FRONT

Ruth H. King, Editorial Assistant,
Nursing Bureau

To many Metropolitan Nurses here at home the article in the January number of the Quarterly Bulletin, "A Salute to the Metropolitan Nurses in the Armed Forces," gave a thrilling sense of sharing, if only indirectly, in the rich and unforgettable experiences of Metropolitan members of the Army and Navy. But - "Peace has its victories no less than war," so in this number we salute the Metropolitan Nursing Staff which is meeting the grave challenges of the time on the home front.

Metropolitan Nurses who are deep in military life at present want to know what changes the war, as well as time and tide, is making in the work of the Nursing Service. To them and to the Metropolitan staff we want to say, we are in a fight too, here at home, to maintain and improve the health and strength of our country by maintaining and improving that part of it which is our special province, that of our policyholders and their families. If it is sometimes hard to realize the importance of this work as compared with that in a field hospital in Belgium, for instance, it is partly because, as yet, we have had no spectacular epidemic to fight. The preservation of health is always less dramatic but requires constant vigilance.

Once a year the Nursing Bureau takes stock of the Metropolitan Nursing Service. This is done in two ways - by the annual statistics and by the annual narrative reports. The statistics are the bare bones of the year's experience; the narrative reports give them life. The narrative reports come to Miss Haupt's desk early in January, for the end of the year brings more than Christmas to Metropolitan Head Nurses and Supervisors! Nor does a Nursing Bureau position in the Home Office confer immunity; every member of that staff prepares an annual report too. The Director's report to Dr. Armstrong contains the final crystallization of the experiences of many individual Nurses and Supervisors, of their reactions and conclusions, and of their activities as members of their communities in this time of war.

The annual reports bring into focus the problems that are country-wide and other problems that are local. They point to places where growth has halted or where it is taking some new direction. Trends of the times become evident, and so do the dislocations caused by war. Without these reports, an understanding of the Nursing Service in itself and in relation to the whole public health nursing field could hardly be made at all. To quote from Miss Haupt's report for 1944:

"We are in a unique position, through our Local and Territorial Supervisors and our administrative service in the Home and Head Offices, to keep in active touch with the total field of public health nursing, from the local grass roots, through State organizations to the national level, both governmental and voluntary."

The reading of one report right after another makes a real impact upon the reader. The problems of the Field come home with full force. So, too, do the loyalty, flexibility, and stamina of Metropolitan Nurses and Supervisors.