ARMISTICE DINNER

Veterans of Base Hospital Unit 21 observed the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice with a dinner at Hotel Coronado. The guest speaker of the evening was W. R. Wills, of the KMOX news staff, whose program "Know Japan" is heard every Sunday night over that station. Wills, for fourteen years the publisher of an American newspaper in Tokyo, was held three months in a Japanese jail as an enemy agent, before being sent home on the ship that brought Ambassador Joseph Grew and other diplomats from the Orient. In his talk he warned that Japan is potentially the strongest power in the world, gaining strength hourly, and can only be defeated by hard fighting. Like Ambassador Grew, Wills is disturbed by the spirit of moral complacency he has found in this country and dismayed to note our tendency to hail minor engagements as great victories that will lead to a speedy conclusion of the war. "We will have to fight as we've never fought before if we expect to win," he predicted.

OCTOBER PARTY

Former members of Base Hospital Unit 21 were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Larimore at the Larimore summer home near Chesterfield, Mo., on Saturday afternoon and evening, October 10.

Dinner, served on a terrace adjoining a barbecue pit, consisted of roast lamb, pig, and Brunswick stew served in individual wooden bowls. This tasty mulligan, regarded as essential to successful barbecue parties in the deep South, is known to Northerners chiefly through mention in Octavus Roy Cohen's Saturday Evening Post stories of Birmingham's colored smart set.

At the close of the dinner P. H. Byrns presented Charles Jablonsky, retiring commander of Rouen Post 242, with a diamond past commander's pin. As Jabby was responding with a carefully prepared speech, Bill Engel, dozing in a nearby chair, tilted backward, lost his balance and turned a complete somersault before hitting the stone floor. It was the most spectacular acrobatic exhibition seen at a Unit meeting since Jeannette Parish made her memorable nose dive at an Armistice dinner in the Kingsway Hotel.

"Engel pulled that stunt just to interrupt my talk," declared Jablonsky. "It burned him up to see me holding the spotlight." Engel branded the former top sergeant's charge as ridiculous. "Why should I have risked injury to break in on Jabby's incoherent mutterings?" he asked. "Had I wanted to distract him a Bronx salute would have been easier and just as effective. The old boy must be developing a persecution complex."

Twelve-year-old Ann Larimore spent the evening playing rings around wobbly veterans at the ping pong table.
THE RACHEL WATKINS MEMORIAL FUND

The Rachel Hall Watkins Memorial Fund has been established in memory of Rachel Hall Watkins, as a tribute to her services as a dietician in Base Hospital Unit 21 in France from May 16, 1917 to May 26, 1919, and as a further tribute to her exemplification of those ideals contained in the pledge of services taken by all nurses.

Because of Miss Watkins' unselfish service with Unit 21, and in view of her great interest in the development of the Washington University School of Nursing, her friends in Rouen Post 242, American Legion, in cooperation with her family, have decided to follow her suggestion that they establish a Fund to give financial assistance to students in the School of Nursing needing this help.

It is hoped that the establishment and the use of these funds will serve as a constant and tangible evidence of the fine qualities, of mind and spirit of Miss Watkins and will encourage the students aided by the Fund to develop the same fine attributes and to render the same unselfish service.

Full details of the Fund will be furnished by letter shortly.

ARSHAV GETS A RAISE

With the cost of living rising daily we are glad to announce that Arshav Nushan has just received an annual raise of $3500. Nushan, $4000 a year assistant to James J. Lee, Supply Commissioner for the Board of Education, will succeed the latter who has been appointed by the Board to fill the newly created post of Comptroller for the public school system. The Supply Commissioner receives $7500 annually. Nushan has been with the St. Louis school system for more than 16 years.

JOYEUX NOEL

"I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come around—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys."

-A Christmas Carol

As another Christmas star shines softly through the war clouds the Ghost of Christmas Past leads us across the years to the Yuletides spent in France during the first World War. To the comrades who share those memories we extend our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white."

When Bill Engel entered his office on the morning of Nov. 30, he found a note that had been shoved under the door. It read: "Am heading south. Regards to the gang.
Lieut. Melvin Croissant."
1. Allan Gilbert, Jim Costen, and “Pat” Byrns going to town with “The Curse of An Aching Heart.”
2. Jules Silberberg and Retta Snyder.
6. Elmer (Pink) Bowman buying dinner ticket from Joe Meyer. Standing by are Charlie O'Keefe, Bill Reeves and Bill Engel.
7. Marvin Hamilton confers with Chairman Ernst.
8. Alonzo Kelly trying to crowd Ritchey Williams from the picture.
FORMER HEAD OF ARMY NURSES BACK ON DUTY

An address by Major Julia Stimson, of the American Nurses’ Association featured the opening meeting of a three-week recruiting campaign for the First Reserve of the American Red Cross Nursing Service, from which the Army and Navy Nurses are selected, at the auditorium of the Washington University School of Medicine on the evening of Nov. 25.

Major Stimson, who retired as Superintendent of the United States Army Nurse Corps in May, 1928, has returned to active duty and is on a nation-wide tour to recruit graduate nurses for the armed forces.

Major Stimson was chief nurse of Base Hospital 21, and later director of the nursing service for the American Expeditionary Forces in the World War. She lived in St. Louis from 1911 to 1917, being first in charge of social service at Washington University School of Medicine, and later adding to her duties supervision of the training school for nurses at Barnes Hospital and St. Louis Children’s Hospital. She now lives in Briarcliffe, N. Y.

Bill Engel and your editor, did a fairly good job of balancing tea cups at the reception for Major Stimson in the lounge at the Washington University School of Nursing residence the afternoon of Nov. 27. Engel was obviously relieved when a pretty nurse relieved him of his cup. “I can stand around with a highball in my hand for hours at a time without weakening,” said Willie. “But the very thought of a tea cup exhausts me.”

Major Stimson, Estelle Claiborne, Louise Knapp, and Mary Reynolds were the guests of Louise Hilligass at the latter’s country home at Augusta, Mo. on Nov. 28.

Dr. Borden Veeder, Chairman of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Red Cross, was advanced to the presidency of the American Academy of Pediatrics at a meeting of the Academy which opened in Chicago on Nov. 6. Dr. Veeder succeeds Dr. Edward Clay Mitchell of Memphis, Tenn.

Photographs of the 25th anniversary reunion dinner are available and may be obtained by forwarding order and remittance to William Engel, room 1004, Federal Commerce Trust Bldg. The prices are as follows: 8x10 glazed print, 55c. Unglazed 85c. 11x14 glazed, $1.00. Unglazed, $1.25.