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WAR DEPARTMENT.

List of changes of station during the month of February 1917 in the cases of Sergeants, First Class, and Sergeants, Medical Department.

SERGEANTS, FIRST CLASS.

Rasmus P. Nelson, from Fort Screven, to Fort McPherson.

Meyer McC. Dougherty, from Fort McPherson, to Fort Screven.

Oscar Gabsch, from the Army Medical School, Washington, D. C., to Fort Mackenzie.

SERGEANTS.

Peter Pfranklin, from Columbus Barracks, to the Aviation School, Memphis, Tenn.

Frank C. Wagner, from on duty with the Ohio Militia, to duty at Ft. Benjamin Harrison.

Joseph H. Peberdy, from on duty in the Southern Department, to duty with the Ohio Militia.

TREATMENT OF BURNS WITH PARAFFIN.

Considerable attention has been directed to the method of Barthe de Sandfort for the treatment of burns. This consists of the application of a proprietary modification of hard paraffin known as "ambrine," which is sprayed in a melted state over the burn, and allowed to congeal. It has, undoubtedly, given most satisfactory results. The author found that these were due entirely to the physical properties of ambrine, the constitution of which is a trade secret, but which is probably hard paraffin modified by exposure to high temperature, such as that of superheated steam. Even better results than those obtained with "ambrine" have followed the use of an antiseptic base prepared as follows: Hard paraffin, 67, is melted, soft paraffin, 25, and olive oil, 5, are added. Resorcinol, 1, dissolved in a little alcohol, is then added, followed, when the mixture has cooled to about 55° C., by eucalyptus oil, 2. This is known as "No. 7 paraffin." Since resorcinol is now difficult to obtain, the formula may be modified thus: Beta-naphthol, 0.25; eucalyptus oil, 2; olive oil, 5; soft paraffin, 25; hard paraffin, 67-75. The burn is washed with sterile water and dried by placing a piece of dry gauze over the surface. Melted "No. 7 paraffin" at 50° C. is then gently brushed over the surface with a sterile broad camel-hair brush. The paraffin base melts at 48° C., so the necessary temperature for application may be taken at the point when a pellicle begins to form on the surface of the melted ointment. A spray may be used, but is unnecessary except in very painful burns. When set, the paraffin coating is covered with a thin layer of cotton. This cotton is treated with a second coating of "No. 7 paraffin," and then finished with the usual bandage. At first, the burns are usually dressed daily. Very septic lesions should be first cleansed with warm boric acid fomentations. The results obtained have been excellent. The treatment is equally efficacious for ulcerated frost-bite of "trenchfoot."—Lieut.-Colonel A. J. Hall (*B. M. J.*, 1917, 1, 37); through *Pharm. Journal*.