[Leaflet about the American Red Cross headquarters in Washington, D.C., its history and its museums areas].

# **Publication/Creation**

1921.

# **Persistent URL**

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/f8hq6x79

### License and attribution

Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



Wellcome Collection 183 Euston Road London NW1 2BE UK T +44 (0)20 7611 8722 E library@wellcomecollection.org https://wellcomecollection.org

# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

91751

C.S. 229

NATIONAL HEADOUARTERS AT WASHINGTON, THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

The

Situated on Seventeenth Street, between the Corcoran Building Gallery of Art and the Memorial Hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution, is an impressive marble building over whose portico is inscribed the legend: "In Memory of



THE AMERICAN RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS

the Heroic Women of the Civil War." This building is the Headquarters of the American Red Cross. The site and part of the cost of the building were provided by Act of Congress. The remainder of the amount necessary was provided by the generous contributions of Capt. James A. Scrymser, Mrs. Russell Sage, Mrs. E. H. Harriman and the Rockefeller Foundation. On March 27, 1915, the cornerstone was laid and, within two years, just as America entered the World War, the Red Cross moved into its beautiful and spacious quarters.

The Interior

The interior of the building is in keeping with the dignity and simplicity of the exterior. Entering the wide portals, the visitor faces a broad white marble staircase leading to the

Assembly Hall, which occupies the entire north end of the building. This Hall contains three famous stained glass windows, designed and executed by Louis C. Tiffany, of New York, and presented to the American Red Cross by the



AMERICAN RED CROSS MUSEUM-GENERAL VIEW

Women's Relief Corps of the North and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Museum

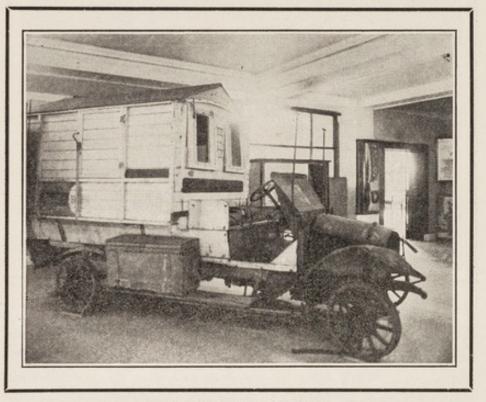
The basement of the building is being utilized as a Museum, in which are assembled many interesting exhibits of Red Cross work. This Museum was opened in September, 1919, with the intention that it should be the Memorial to all Red Cross workers of the World War, and that it should represent graphically the entire history of our National Red Cross. This intention is in the process of realization.

Miniature Models One of the chief features of the Museum are the miniature models of Red Cross activities. One of these shows the first Emergency Canteen opened by the American Red Cross for the refugees returning to the devastated regions of France. In the foreground lie the ruins of the little village of Vaux, which was captured by the 9th and 23d Infantry of the 2d Division in July, 1918. In the background may be seen the historic Marne, Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Woods—names forever engraved upon the hearts of Americans.

Another model depicts a Front Line Dressing Station, in a dug-out camouflaged from the spying eyes of enemy aviators. The wounded are being brought straight from the battlefield to receive the emergency treatment that skilled hands and sterile dressings can give.

Other models show the extensive activities carried on in the Surgical Dressing Workrooms, at the Ports of Debarkation in this country and in the Canteens in France.

Mar Relics In the exhibit of helmets, gas masks, guns, surgical kits, etc., perhaps the most interesting is an historic ambulance which saw service during the entire period of the war.

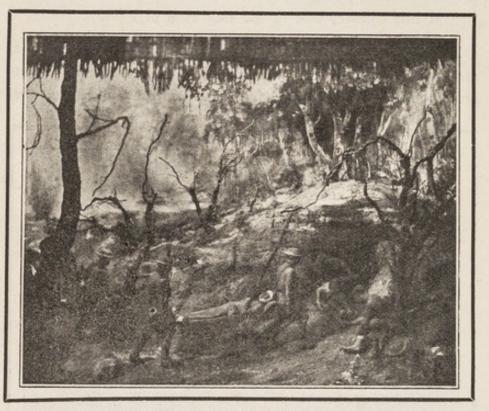


RED CROSS AMBULANCE

It was captured, stripped of its tires, and later abandoned by the Germans when our troops drove them out of Chateau-Thierry. It has received the Croix de Guerre, with three citations for heroic work under fire.

#### Civil Mar Relics

Another exhibit of great interest is that of material of the United States Sanitary Commission, the forerunner of the American Red Cross. Worthy of particular mention are the photographs of the five original members of the commission; the Chart of Organization; and the old U. S. Sanitary Commission flag, which flew over the headquarters of the Rhode Island Division; the doll, "Rose Percy," with her trousseau which raised thousands of dollars at the Sanitary Commission Fair in New York, in 1864, for the benefit of the Hospitals at the front.



MODEL OF A TYPICAL FRONT LINE DRESSING STATION

Other Collections Other collections of interest to the visitor include articles made by the children of the Junior Red Cross, both at home and abroad; work done by disabled soldiers, by prisoners of war, by refugees, by the women of America to relieve the situation abroad and by the grateful peoples of Europe. Only by actually seeing these things can the far-reaching service of the American Red Cross be fully appreciated.

August. 1921