

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/45/42

Title: 2nd Australian Field Ambulance

March 1919



AWM4-26/45/42

46

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

2ND AUST. FIELD AMB.
No. 1-

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

MARCH

1919

2ND AUST. FIELD AMB.
No. 1-

Signature of Officer compiling

Lieut. Colonel

Signature of Officer Commanding

Claude Howard Lieut. Colonel

SHEET

ONE.

WAR DIARY

MARCH 1919

PO AUST. FIELD AMB.

Army Form C. 2118.

48

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
Chatelet	March	1st	Summer-time comes into force.		
		25th	3 0 Horses despatched to Base Remount Depot, Calais.		
		72th	Capt. Hayes, W. from 1st Tun. Co. and detached to 20 CCS. Capt. Saxby G. from detachment at 2 0 CCS and transferred to "A" Reinf. Wing.	Ch Ch	
		9th	Quota No. 16 despatched, 40 Other Ranks. 1st Field Amb. marched in from Biesme to billets in Chatelet. Thereupon the 1st and 3rd Field Amb. were each reduced to "B" Cadre and W.O., the remaining personnel being transferred to 2nd Aus. F. Amb.	Ch	
				The clerical work entailed in this transfer was immense, the readjustment of the nominal roll appointment of personnel to different sections and sub-divisions, reconstruction of the leave roster and precedence roll, and re-arrangement of N.C.Os. as well as many items of internal administration such as detachments and water details, causing the clerical staff a rush of work comparable to that of an active operation. All Dental Units attached to 1st and 3rd Bdes. were transferred to attachment with 2nd Fld. Amb. The Officers' Mess and Sergeants' Mess now assumed formidable proportions, but the somewhat unwieldy unit was soon running smoothly again.	
		12th	12th	7 horses transferred from 1st F. Amb.	
		12th		7 horses transferred from 1st F. Amb.	Ch
		15th		Major M.G. Sutton attached A.D.M.S. as D.A.D.M.S. Sale of Horses - 1 Ride, 3 L.D., 2 H.D.	Ch Ch Ch
		19th		Capt. Rosenthal C.B. to A.I.F. HQ., London for Educ. purposes.	Ch
		20th		Capt. Moore B. to 6-7th Bn. as temp. R.M.O.	Ch
		24th		A.D.M.S., Col. Marks, took leave of M.O's. among whom he was universally popular, and finally left the Division for demobilization. During his term of office he endeared himself to every member of his command, invariably displaying an impartial sympathy with all ranks which won him the affection and respect of all branches of the Medical Services of the Division.	Ch Ch Ch Ch
		25th		Horse Sales, 1 L.D. sold. Capt. McDonald & 3 O.Ranks transferred to Aus. Graves Det. Capt. Hayes W. from detachment at 20 CCS. transferred to 1-4 Bn. as RMO. Capt. Green J.S. from detachment at 55 CCS. transferred to 9110 Bn. as RMO.	Ch Ch Ch
		26th		Capt. Flock W.K. from hospital and proceeded to DMS., AIF, London for duty.	Ch
		27th		Capt. Purves, A.N. MC, from detachment at 55 CCS, proceeded to DMS, AIF, London for duty. Quota No. 22-8 Other ranks proceeded to Base. for demobilization.	Ch Ch Ch
29th		Major Watch proceeded to DMS, AIF, London.	Ch		
31st		3rd Dental Unit attached to Aus. Graves Detachment for duty.	Ch		

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Form C/2118/16.

WAR DIARY

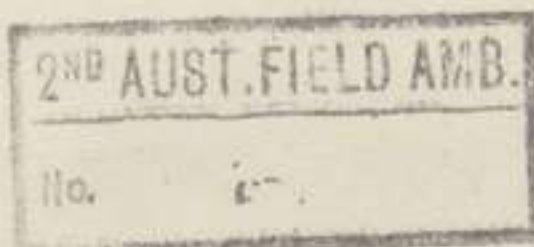
OF

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

MARCH 1919**LIST OF APPENDICES.**

No.	Subject.
I.	Report of Commanding Officer
II.	Report of Hospital
III.	Graphs of Hospital
IV.	Report of Quartermaster.



REPORT OF

COMMANDING OFFICER.

46

During the month of March demobilization has been seriously delayed owing to industrial troubles in the United Kingdom. The departure of quotas has again and again been postponed, so that the end of the month finds some 48 men who enlisted in 1915 still in Belgium.

This delay has been exceedingly trying to all ranks, the irritation being accentuated by the vile weather, so common in this country during the month of March.

The Orderly Room Staff has been excessively busy with the heavy clerical work entailed in the amalgamation of the other two ambulances of the Division. Sgt. Brooks and his men, by dint of long hours and conscientious toil, kept all returns and correspondence up-to-date, in spite of many difficulties.

Throughout the month the Hospital has been maintained, containing an average of about 30 patients, as also have the Prophylactic Venereal Depots in Chatelet, Charleroi and Brussels.

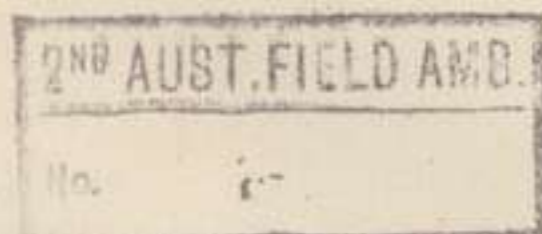
Three Medical Officers and 25 Other Ranks have been detached for duty with the two Casualty Clearing Stations in Charleroi, to assist the R.A.M.C. personnel, until 26.3.19, when all the officers and several of the Other Ranks were recalled for demobilization.

The Horse Transport has practically ceased to exist, there being 7 horses only remaining after the last sales on 25th.

The Motor Transport has been very busy, the cars of the 1st and 3rd Field Ambulances being attached for duty, which brought the car strength up to 14 Sunbeams and 6 Fords, with which the sick of the whole division have been cleared and evacuated.

Except for the amalgamation, the month has been a most uneventful one, from every point of view. All ranks have been awaiting their turn for demobilization, and watching, with what patience was possible, the interminable labor difficulties in the United Kingdom, which so effectually held up the repatriation of Overseas Troops.

Clarence Innes
.....Lieut. Colonel
C.O. 2nd Aus. Field Ambulance.



46

WAR DIARY
MARCH
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

APPENDIX II

REPORT OF HOSPITAL

In spite of many difficulties, staff Sgt. Waples has contrived to maintain a high degree of efficiency in the work of the Nursing Orderlies.

The epidemic of Influenza has materially subsided during the month, sporadic cases only occurring towards the latter half. The disease, too, has shown a marked diminution in severity, and a tendency to rapid recovery.

By far the most frequent disease dealt with in the hospital has been Scabies, the treatment of which has been greatly facilitated by the acquisition of a German Disinfector which had been made use of by the 1st Field Amb.

Towards the latter part of the month, nursing orderlies were installed at the Div. Baths, to watch for skin rashes among the bathers, and in this way, large numbers of cases of Scabies were detected and satisfactorily treated.

Venereal disease has been ravaging the troops of the Div. and a fair degree of success has been attained in the Early Treatment by plugging, as advocated by Col. Raffan. *of Smone*

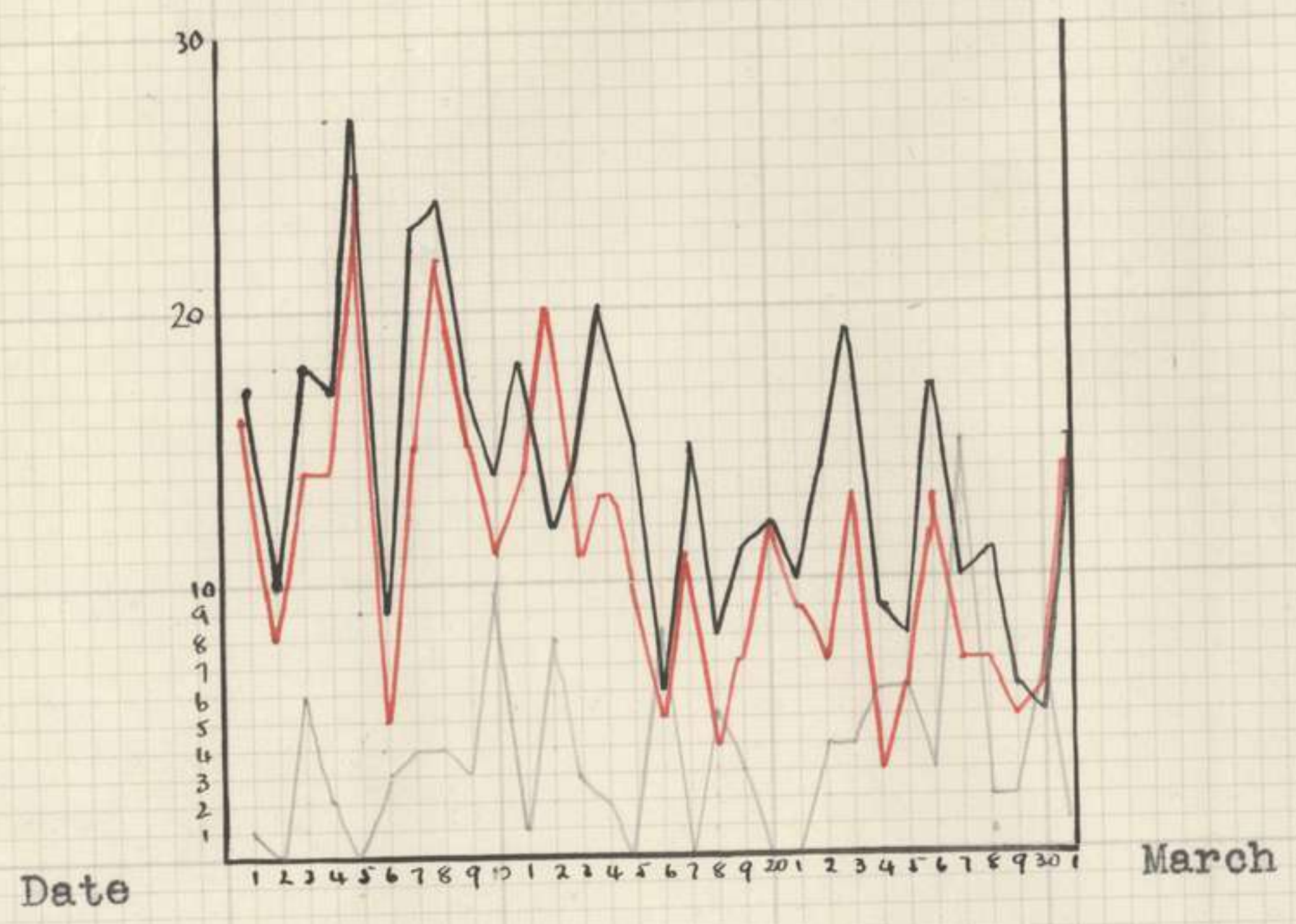
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea have become steadily more prevalent with each month, that the Division has been billeted in the environs of Charleroi. Prophylactic treatment appears from the statistics, to have little influence in prevention of this disease, in spite of the large number of cases treated, and the care exhibited in the treatment of each individual case.

2ND AUSTR. FIELD AMB.
No. 6

Robert Moore
.....Lieut. Colonel
C.O. 2nd Aus. Field Ambulance.

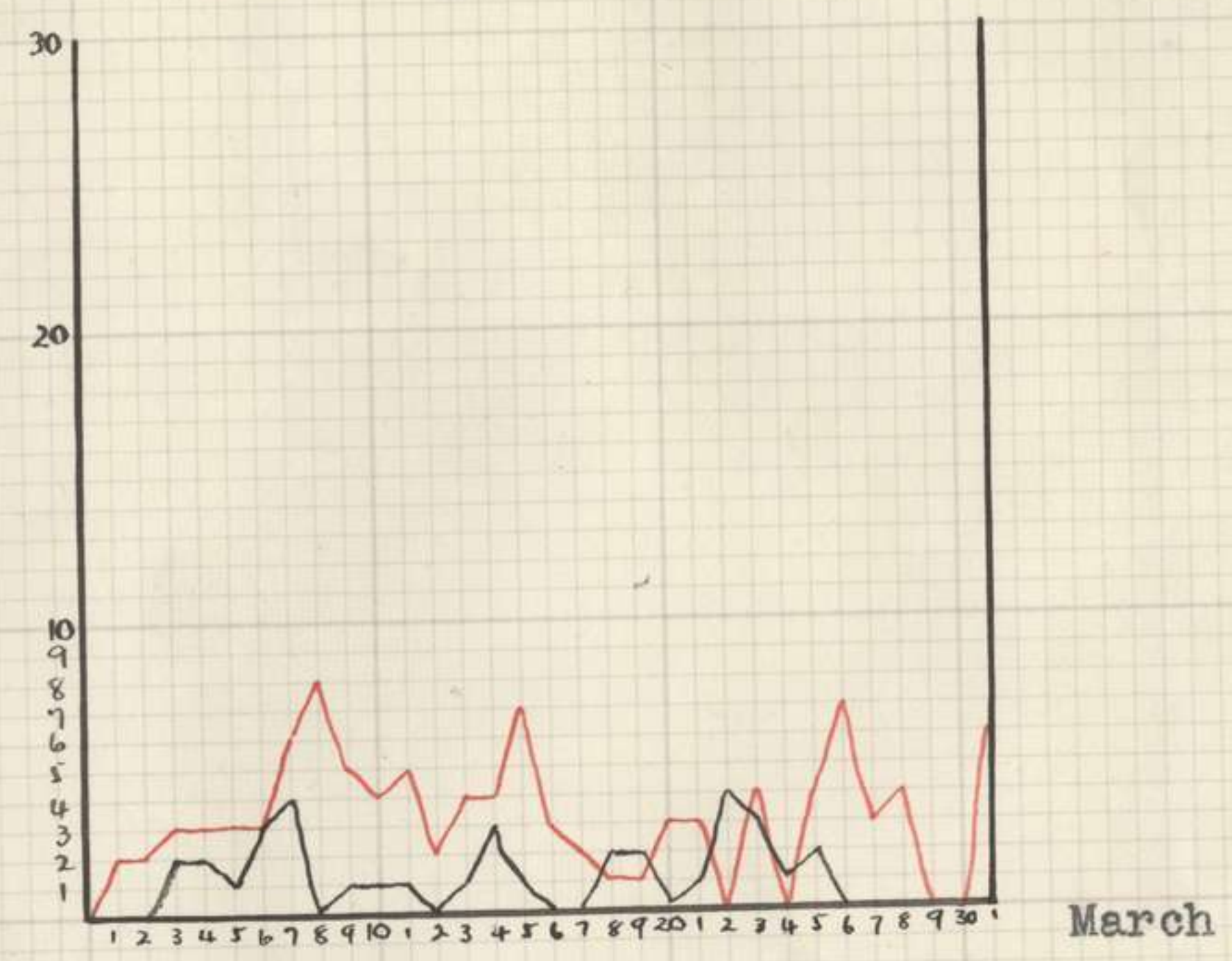
GRAPHS OF
REST STATION

Showing Patients
Admitted
Disc. to Duty
Evac. to CCS.



Admitted —
Disc. to Duty —
Evac. to CCS. —

Showing Patients admitted suffering from Venereal Disease and Scabies. 46



Venereal —
Scabies. —

2ND AUST. FIELD AMB.
No. 2

46
WAR DIARY
MARCH
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

APPENDIX IV

REPORT OF
QUARTERMASTER

The month of March has been a very busy one for this Department, on account of the large number of men being sent away on drafts and quotas, etc. for demobilization and repatriation, and the collecting of R.M.O's stores and equipment. The Medical Stores & Equipment of R.M.Os. of following units were collected during the month:- 2 Bde. A.F.A., 7 Inf. Bn, 4 inf. Bn., 11 Inf. Bn., 1st Aus. Div. Train, 6 Inf. Bn., 1st Tun. Co., A.D.M.S. 1st Div.

The Aus. Comforts Fund supplied the Unit with cocoa and milk, ~~rice~~ cigarettes, sugar, curry powder, oxo, and milk.

Our demands on the ~~comforts~~ Aus. Red Cross have been fairly heavy for the month, on account of the number of patients treated by this Ambulance. The following stores were drawn from them;- milk, cigarettes biscuits, tobacco, fruit, towels, pyjamas, sweets, jam, stationery & reading matter, soap, and a number of cards, games, etc.

The supply of clean clothing for the month, has shown a decided improvement and no difficulty has been experienced in supplying clean clothing for patients.

No difficulty has been experienced in obtaining stores, etc. from Ordnance and R.S.O.

(Sgd) D.C. BUTTERWORTH, Lieut.

Quartermaster 2nd Aus. Field Ambulance.

