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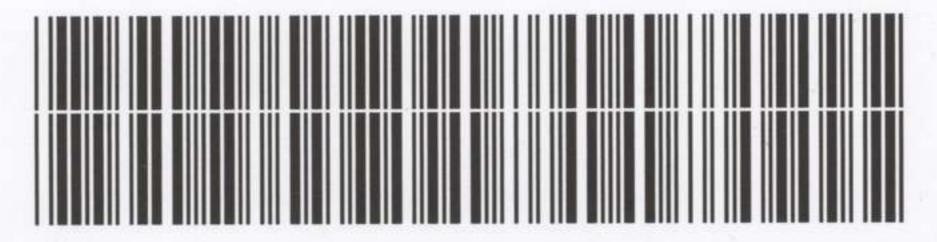
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/66/29

Title: No 2 Australian General Hospital

August 1918



AWM4-26/66/29

ORIGINAL. DUPLICATE. TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

Nº 2 AUST. GEN. HOSPITAL

FOR

AUGUST. 1918

Signature of Officer compiling It and who Powsell bol

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1015189 WAR DIARY

CONFIDENTIAL. 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.)

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Army Form C. 2118.

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store room to meet the requirements of an increased	
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WAR DIARY

OF

NO 2 AUST. GEN. HOSPITAL

AUGUST, 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

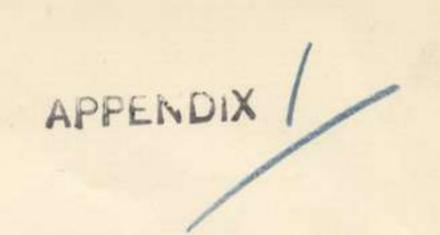
Subject.

I. STORE ROOM

II. PERSONNEL

LU NURSING STAFF.

& anhm. Pombbel



366

No 2 Australian General Hospital

Diary for August 1818

Appendix I

With the increase of the number of patients to be taken in this hospital from 1290 to 1500 with a crisis expansion to 1700 or more, it became necessary to make proper store accomodation, and plans were accordingly prepared. The present arrangement is unsatisfactory because the MILK and the MEAT stores are two small buildings near to the main kitchen where the issues are not under the immediate sup rvision of the Quartermaster, and so errors are likely to occur. Other and important reasons are the congested condition of the equipment and linen stores, and the difficulty of running these two departments in the same room.

The plans prepared provide for a building of 4:rooms to be used as 1. Stewards Store. 2 Milk Store. 3 Meat Store. 3 Store for Vegetables. This when completed will allow the present Stewards Store being used as Equipment Store and the whole of the adjoining room can then be used for Linen.

Appendix II

Femile Nursing Staff. Miss Gray the Matron reports good work being done by the staff, and that the w rk has been rather heavy owing to the admission of only stretcheccases. The number of nurses working here has been reduced d ring the month by sending eight for temporary duty with units in the Fifth Army area, and the return of thre to their original unit, No 3 Gemeral Hospital.

During the air raids three severe ones were experienced in the month), the nurses behaved with perfect calmness, and carried out their duties without flurry or excitement. The health of the sisters was good, only two nurses being off duty for a short period. Men. Most of the under age personnel have been returned to base much to the benefit of the remainder of the Staff, and the first draft of A.A.M.C. men for training contains many who show that they willmake good orderlies. One man was tried by C.M. for absenting himself from a draft, being in possession of a government bicycle, and with wearing sergeants stripes and was sentenced to to forfeit pay for 28 days.

The question of food for the men is a matter of serious importance now. Up till quite recently men were able to obtain food in the canaeens to suppliment their issues, now these extras are very difficult to obtain, the men are obliged to subsist on the rations alone, and are feeling that the restricted diet is scarce—ly enough, especially when the work is heavy. The question of contentment or otherwise depends largely on the cook, and the manner of preparation and distribution of the food. The training officer trained in dietry would be of very great assistance, and he could act as second quartermaster also.

appendic TII

No 2 Australian General Hospital September 1918 POTNICK

D.M.S. All.F.

From O.C.No 2 A.G.H.

I have to report a month of comparatively light work, the first half especially showing ve y few admissions and discharges. for the last ten days there was fair work because of the push on he somme.

Surgical

Lt-Col. Maclure, the Surgeon Specialist reports.- "During the month convoys from the Somme area have consisted of stretcher cases only, & this has caused the work to borath releavy in regard to the number of patients treated. In the earlier stages of the advance comparative -ly lage number of bullet wounds were met with, lately the has been an increasing percentage of shell wounds and consequently more severe cases.

Operations performed.

acous per Jermous.
Amputation of leg
Amputation of arm
" foot 2
" fingers
Delayed primary sutur s
Removal of foreign bodies
Incision and excision of wounds78
Trephining
Thoracotomy
Esquillectomy
Transfusion of blo d 10
Excision of joints
Arthrotomy 2
Cystotomy
Ligation of arteries

Medical_

Major White reports .-

The heavy fighting which took place during the past month caused many casualties by gas poisoning, and th se cas s kept our medical wards moderately full, and a large number had to be accommodated in the surgical wards. The larger proportion were of the mustard gas type, but there were a few affected by phosgene, and a smaller number by the gasses from the H-E shells. Considering the time of the year the number of serious cases was unusually small, and the skin lesions arising from the vesicant action of the mustard gas were remarkably few. The proporti n of cases evacuated, however, was high r owing to he necessity of keeping beds clear in case of s sudden rush of work. The adoption of a uniform met od of treatment of hese gassed cases has proved satisfact ry, especially for the skin lesions. It has been found more advantageous to exclude all ointments (owing to the ready solubility of the mustard gas in fats, and therefore h liability of the spread by hese agents) and the most useful I cal ap simplifications have been he alkaline washes, calamine loti n or even a simple dusting powd r

APPENDIX

A five cases of ne hritis and albuminuria were under treatment, but the history obtained in most of them sho ed a previous attack.

Very few cases of true influenza came under observation showing that the recent epidemic had apparently dissappeared as quickly as it had come on. The number of Surgical Chest cases under tr atment last month was the largest for some time past, they presented their usual mental interesting features and the majority of them required very careful daily examination. From the Base hospital point of view of these cases we are of opinion that early surgical interference in these cases is to be deprecated, and that in most instances simple as -piration even in the infected states of haemothorax may be all that is necessary.

Of the neurological cas s they were, ith one except n (an interesting case of diffuse myelitis of syphilitic origin of traymatic origin.

Several spinal cord injuries came under observation, mostly due to contusion of the cord, but one death was due to a high cervical lesion afom fracture dislocat on. Two cas s of haemorrhage into the cauda equina were (and still are) under treatment.

Of the head injuries some interesting cases came under observation.

One case had a transient hemiplegia from hasmer=hag contusion, and subsequently a definite pressure hemiplegia from hasmorrhage. He was operated upon and ecov red completely.

The only fatul case as in a thro and thro wound, the bullet penetrating in it's course both occipital lobes, one of which was badly destry d.

Pathological

Captain Forshaw reports. - The usual routine work proceeded uninterruptedly.

The following examinations ere mad e

Blood cultures, o dinary 3.	Wasserman2
Donors for transfusion 25	8puta65
Leucocyte counts32	Urines
Malaria examinations	Faeces
Widal	Throat spabs
Pleural fluids 4.	. C.S.Fluid
Miscellaneous4:	T.A.B. Incos 12

In addit on to the blood cultures some special anaerobic cultures have been attempted from Trench fever cases and are still proceeding. A number of blood film examinations of these cases have been made. The T.A.B. inoculations have shown a remarkable falling off during the month.

Thirteen deaths were reported and 9 pm examinations were carried out and 6 amputation cases were examined bacteri logically. Some of these are still under investigation.

The specimens for museum necessarilly accumulate in an irregular manner, but some excellent specimens from 13 different subjects have been preserved this month. Records of hese have been kept as fully as can be obtained, in some cases with X ray prints and colour transparencies.

APPENDIX

This part of the work has only just begun and will increase in quanti-

Reduced prints from 91 Xray n gatives have been made for sending with the patients. This enables the original negatives to be kept as reconstant the only colour photos are some coldur transparencies of path. specimens and if the codomred prints are made as well or instead the value of the specimens will be incr ased considerably, but materie. have not yet been su plied to us for coloured prints.

X Ray department.

Manhon Fourt

A total of 280 cases were dealt with by the officer in charge of this department-Captain Parkhouse- and he reports the apparatus as working satisfactorilly. The rooms in use are now, in conformity with the latest instructions, painted white or very pale gray. This is to be done to all Xray rooms in this are a and the instruction arises out of the fact that several Xray workers have recentl. been returned to England suffering from Phihisis.

Colonel

O.C. No2 Aust. Gen. Hosp.

