

Thomas Jefferson University Jefferson Digital Commons

American Red Cross base hospital no. 38 in the world war. United States army base hospital no. 38, organized under the auspices of the Jefferson Medical College and Hospital, stationed at Nantes, France, 1918-1919, by W. M. L. Coplin.

Historical Collections

2-1923

VI: The Divisions

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Follow this and additional works at: http://jdc.jefferson.edu/american red cross base hospital



Part of the <u>History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Commons</u>

Recommended Citation

"VI: The Divisions" (1923). American Red Cross base hospital no. 38 in the world war. United States army base hospital no. 38, organized under the auspices of the Jefferson Medical College and Hospital, stationed at Nantes, France, 1918-1919, by W. M. L. Coplin.. Paper 21. http://jdc.jefferson.edu/american red cross base hospital/21

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's Academic & Instructional Support & Resources Department (AISR). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in American Red Cross base hospital no. 38 in the world war. United States army base hospital no. 38, organized under the auspices of the Jefferson Medical College and Hospital, stationed at Nantes, France, 1918-1919, by W. M. L. Coplin. by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

VI

THE DIVISIONS

HEORETICALLY, and to a degree, practically, a Base Hospital embraced three services — the Medical, the Surgical, and the Laboratory; these were called "Divisions." To these properly should be added the nursing organization. But the general divisional designation failed to make obvious most important specialties, frequently functioning almost independently although supposed to be subordinate integrals of one of the three chief services indicated. Such highly important activities as the X-ray work which, although subordinate to one division, gave to all, so also the Neurologic, Ophthalmologic, Orthopedic, Genito-urinary, Laryngologic, Dental and other specialties, gave richly to every demand; only briefly can they be mentioned, the devotion of the respective officers, their co-operative activities and the good they accomplished will never be adequately In the midst of periods of great stress, as when hospital trains came in, or during the influenza epidemic, special detail was forgotten and universal service rendered wholeheartedly; at the base and up at the front, Ophthalmologists, Laryngologists, Dentists and

other highly trained specialists administered anesthetics; whatever may have been a professional assignment, the first and most pressing obligation—that *noblesse oblige* of all workers—was to do what best contributed to the welfare of the stricken soldier.