

over to the clerical department where they underwent a process of quadruplication, acquired accessory communications and endured a period of travel before the patients they concerned were able to be evacuated, in some cases at all events.

The unit also furnished a few officers who sat on boards which had a roving commission and generally toured the Shorncliffe area.

In the ordinary course of events the hospital admitted patients from the Canadian forces in the vicinity, and from certain Imperial units as well belonging to that Military District, so that there was a reasonable amount of regular hospital work. There was also a certain amount of patching up to be done and a Zeppelin raid contributed a very fair substitute for Military surgery at the Front. Just towards the end of our occupation the hospital became officially the place where all cases who needed to be invalided from the Army were sent. As a consequence we left in a perfect orgy of boarding and with a positive sigh of relief.

The Unit was in charge of Shorncliffe Military Hospital from the 6th of October till the 12th of November 1916, though the sisters, the men and some of the officers stayed on until the 15th of November.

The medical activity of the Unit ceased until we disembarked at Salonica. Our first efforts in Greece were not altogether startling although quite effective as we managed to provide accomodation and care for three sick officers of our own and a few importunate men from a neighbouring unit.

Number Five officially opened on January 1, 1916 and patients gradually drifted in for the first few days. These patients were duly shown in our admission book and reported on the usual forms, but our capacity of vacant beds was cautiously withheld until we were pretty well squared away. We may be said to have carried on a local business catering as it were, to units in the immediate vicinity until the 16th of January when we received our first convoy.

As there was no military activity of an aggressive nature on either side the surgical talent had to lie fallow or employ itself on the various accidents, disabilities and diseases which all flesh is heir to and are amenable to surgical treatment. Our first patients for the most part were suffering from ordinary ailments due no doubt largely to exposure.

Very probably Influenza and Rheumatism would have been the popular diagnoses during the first month, if the terms had been allowed, but the War Office regarded the former as an infectious disease and the latter does not exist in the Army. There were however no really severe effects of exposure such as extreme degrees of frost-bite and only a very few cases, of what were Trench feet, were admitted.

The first serious disease which was unduly prevalent and very definite in its manifestations was Nephritis, the so-called Trench-nephritis. Its first appearance was its worst, that is to say there were more cases in January than there have been in any other month since. There were 42 in this month though in addition there were 26 cases of Albu-