

Miss A. Young.
A.A.N.S.

188.

I joined No. 1 A.A.H., as masseuse, on 10th August, 1915. There were three of us there at that time, and the work was fairly strenuous. The majority of the patients had not had any massage treatment before coming to us, and as it was sometimes months, before we got them, the results were pretty bad. However about November, 1915, we were reinforced, and our Staff gradually increased to eleven. By this time, the Hospital had grown to 1,000 beds, and we still had plenty to do.

At the beginning all our work was done in the wards, but when Colonel Dennis took charge of the department, we were given wards of our own for massage and electric treatment. We did some medical work, but owing to the fact that we were nearly always short staffed, most of our attention had to be turned to the surgical cases.

A great percentage of the fracture cases also had nerve lesions, and I was fortunate enough to have a great deal of this work to do. We did not keep the patients long enough to see any absolute recoveries, of course, but the improvement in many cases was more than satisfactory. Radiant Heat, and electricity were a large factor in our treatment of stiff joints, and rheumatism especially.

Our wards were splendidly equipped, which gave us every chance of getting the best results from our work, and I think that the men, for the most part, were satisfied and happy.

I was in this Hospital for three and a half years, when I was sent to No. 1 A.C.H. at Sutton Veny, to make another start, with another of the original No. 1 A.A.H. Masseuse. The A.I.P. had just taken over the Hospital, and we had nothing to work with at all. Captain Brown was in charge of our department, here, and he very soon had a ward fitted up for electric treatment, and Radiant Heat.

As there was only four of us working, we again had a busy time, doing about nine hours duty a day, each having about 24 or 25 patients. There was a great many fractured Femur cases; I had 17 on my own list out of 24 cases. Many of these had not had any massage treatment, although they were very old wounds, some of them ununited. Most of them responded very well. We also found that massage helped in the healing of old wounds.

I have been out for four years, and we have had some very good times amongst the bad ones, and I have been fortunate enough to be in Hospitals where our work has been made as pleasant as possible. The numbers of our treatment at No. 1 A.A.H., were:-

<u>Electric Ward.</u>		<u>Massage Ward.</u>	
<u>Year.</u>	<u>Attendance.</u>	<u>Year.</u>	<u>Attendance.</u>
1916	6,979	1916	24,246
1917	9,598	1917	27,735
1918	12,219	1918	22,911
	<hr/> 28,796		<hr/>
			74,912.
	<hr/> 74,912		<hr/>
<u>Total.</u>	<u>28,796</u>		
	<u>103,708.</u>		