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OFFICE MEDICAL AIDE TO COMMANDANT
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TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
November 9, 1918.

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Encl. (3)

My dear Doctor,

It is a great satisfaction to be able to say that the influenza is decreasing, not only among our own people but also in the civil population, in San Francisco and Oakland. The types of the disease that have been admitted into our own Sick Quarters in the past week have been quite mild. The deaths so far are 10 with a probability of the 11th occurring in the next 24 hours. All the other patients, 33 in number, (12 women and 21 men) are practically convalescents.

The Naval Auxiliary of the Red Cross turned over the quarters which we are now using as sick quarters without any charges for rent and it seems to me that it would be fair on the part of the Government to pay the Auxiliary the price that they are paying to the owners of the building during the period that we use their club rooms as sick quarters.

The measures adopted by the civil authorities in these bay cities have been the closing of public amusement places and the churches, and the preventing of congregations of any number of people, (more than 20) other than for actual business purposes and only with permission of the City Health Officials. The wearing of masks in all our surrounding cities has been made compulsory by municipal ordinances. In the minds of some of the medical men the masks are not believed to have contributed anything to the reduction in the number of cases. While the wearing of the masks by people not in contact with the sick has been irregular and the character of the masks has been in some cases unsatisfactory, I feel that the actual wearing of the masks has been of much value as it has taught the public the seriousness of the disease that is present and such wearing has forced people with a mild type of the disease, who were responsible for the rapid spread, to stay at home without danger to the public.

At the Lane Hospital we have at present 3 Influenza cases and one convalescent from a pus appendicitis. Of the three influenza cases one is Dr. Saphro, who has been running a temperature which led me to suspect pulmonary tuberculosis. Two microscopic examinations revealed tubercle bacilli. Evidently a quiescent tuberculous focus was lighted up by the influenza. As soon as he is able to travel I shall recommend further disposition of his case.

In the Merritt Hospital in Oakland we have 2 patients with influenza, members of the Naval Unit of the University of California. For a week the situation was so extreme in Oakland that

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the Merritt Hospital informed us that they could receive no further patients.

I enclose two circulars expressing the appreciation of the local authorities for the great aid which the Navy has been able to render them during the epidemic. We have at present about 67 Hospital Corpsmen at the San Francisco Hospital and about 40 Medical and Dental students, members of the Naval Unit of the University of California, also assisting at the same institution. I regret to state that one of our dental Hospital Corpsmen has succumbed from the disease while on duty at the San Francisco Hospital. In addition to this help noted above Mare Island has sent 20 Hospital Corpsmen and two medical officers to the temporary hospital in the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco looking out for the convalescents from the pulmonary type of the disease. In addition to all this help the Navy has also loaned 12 Hospital Corpsmen who are assisting in the temporary hospital in the Civic Auditorium in the city of Oakland.

Our clerical force has at different times been ill with the disease, with the exception of the Pharmacist. Necessarily this has resulted in some error and omissions in our records which we will earnestly try to correct.

As soon as the disease has definitely subsided I shall endeavor to gather material for a scientific report upon the occurrence in detail at Headquarters, and in general terms throughout the District.

Last night there was a conference called at the request of Dr. McCoy of the Public Health Service attended by Dr. Kuder and myself from this office, the Director of the Research Laboratory of the Hooper Foundation of the University of California, Dr. Meyer, Dr. Ophuls, Dean of the Stanford Medical School and Professor of Pathology there, and other Public Health and State health officials. In accordance with your telegrams we are going all we can to help Dr. McCoy in his investigations of the disease.

Sincerely yours,

George Rothgauer

Surgeon General, W.C. Braisted
Navy Department,
Washington, D.C.

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Department of Public Health
Central Office
1085 Mission Street

November 1st, 1918.

Dr. George Rothganger,
Medical Aide to Commandant,
Twelfth Naval District,
Sheldon Building,
San Francisco.

My dear Doctor;

I have this moment completed a letter of thanks and appreciation to Admiral Jayne for his great service to the city in sending to our municipal hospital in San Francisco, the able force of naval apprentices from the Yerba Buena Naval Training Station, and the young men from the training camp at Berkeley. In this I must not forget your own kindly and efficient services.

In behalf of the Board of Health of the City and County of San Francisco, and of Dr. Brodrick, superintendent of the San Francisco Hospital, I desire to express my sincere thanks for your services.

Permit me at the same time to express the hope that you will very soon recover from your illness, as to which Dr. Brodrick has just informed me by telephone.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Arthur H. Barendt.
President, Board of Health.

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HEADQUARTERS
TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
NOVEMBER 7, 1918.

WER:DET

From: Commandant.
To : Personnel, Twelfth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Expression of appreciation of assistance rendered
by Navy personnel during influenza epidemic.

1. The following letter is quoted for your information.

"CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CENTRAL OFFICE, 1085 Mission St.

November 1st, 1918.

Hon. Joseph L. Jayne,
Admiral, Commandant,
Twelfth Naval District,
Sheldon Building,
San Francisco.

Dear Sir:

In behalf of the Department of Public Health of the City and County of San Francisco, as also for Dr. R.G. Brodrick, superintendent of the San Francisco Hospital, permit me to express to you our sincere appreciation of your aid in helping us to stem the epidemic which has been prevalent in this city for the past three weeks, and which we trust now is on the wane. Your kindness and courtesy in permitting sixty naval apprentices from the Yerba Buena Naval Training Station to aid in the serious problem of nursing influenza sufferers at our municipal hospital, and in permitting some thirty-four young men to come to us from the training camp at Berkeley to perform similar services, has been of invaluable help in a crisis which we would have been probably unable otherwise to meet.

I take this opportunity of expressing my belief that this aid is an aid to our country of an essentially military nature, as the majority of the patients to whom these young men have been ministering are within the draft ages of eighteen to forty-five, and are engaged, many of them, in essential industries. I have no hesitation in saying, and I know that Dr. Brodrick concurs, that the lives of many men have been saved, and that they will be restored to health and useful citizenship, thanks to the very prompt aid which you have given in this emergency.

Believe me, dear sir, with great respect,

Very truly yours,

Arthur H. Barendt."

J. L. JAYNE

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HEADQUARTERS
TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
NOVEMBER 7, 1918.

WER:DF

From: Commandant.
To : Personnel Twelfth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Expression of appreciation of assistance rendered
by Navy personnel during influenza epidemic.

1. The following letter is quoted for your information.

"THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER

942 Market St.

November
fourth
1918.

Admiral J.L. Jayne,
United States Navy,
Santa Fe Bldg., San Francisco.

My dear Admiral:

Although somewhat delayed, by reason of the fact that I had assumed you had been communicated with through the city authorities, may I on behalf of the Red Cross of San Francisco extend to you my appreciation of your help in furnishing personnel to the hospital to take care of the present emergency. This prompt response of yours to the appeal made in the name of mercy has once more put San Francisco and the Red Cross under obligations. I want you to know that it is known and appreciated, and by all of us.

Yours very truly,

John A. Britton,

Chairman San Francisco Chapter."

JAB.B
Cy Mr. Bogart.

J.L. JAYNE