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ORIGINAL ARTICLE.

HISTORY OF THE AMBULANCE SYSTEM IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

BY WILLIAM SCHROEDER, M.D.

In some form or other for years past persons found upon the public streets, in a state of sickness, or those who met with an injury by accident or otherwise, were conveyed to their homes or to a place of shelter. In later years this place of shelter was called a hospital. The method by which this was accomplished varied according to circumstances. If a stretcher could be secured that was considered the best; if not, any wagon was put into service without regard to the injury received or the comfort of the patient. This condition of things prevailed in the city of Brooklyn until August, 1873. We desire at this time to present a review of the proceedings of the Common Council, and several papers published in the local press relating to the introduction and establishment of the Ambulance System in the City of Brooklyn; they will tell the story much better than any words of mine.

The first communication on this subject appeared in the Brooklyn Union on July 31, 1871, and was dated July 28, 1871, and signed "M.D." The author of this is our associate, Joseph H. Raymond, M.D., who at the time referred to was an interne in the City Hospital, now the Brooklyn Hospital, and to him the people of Brooklyn are indebted for first calling attention to the necessity of an ambulance system in this city.

The second contribution, which appeared as an editorial in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, is dated November 18, 1871. Its language in many places is so much like that of the letter published in the Brooklyn Union of July 31, 1871, that we must necessarily conclude that the author is the same.

We are also pleased to record the interest manifested by the members of the Medical Society of the County of Kings, under the direction of Joseph C. Hutchison, M.D., LL.D., and John T. Conkling, M.D., both ex-presidents of the Society.

The letters and reports herewith submitted are copied from the original as they appear in the

public press, and the proceedings of the Common Council of the city of Brooklyn.

HOW PATIENTS ARE TREATED IN THE HOSPITAL.

BROOKLYN, July 28th, 1871.

To the Editor of the Union:

Sir:—I desire to bring to the attention of the public a subject which has for some time occupied my thoughts. No one but an eye witness can begin to comprehend the suffering to which men, women and children are subjected when, after the receipt of an injury, they are carried to the hospital; and to fully appreciate the pain and anguish of these unfortunates as they are hurried over rough streets or handled by unskilled hands, is beyond the power of the most sympathizing and tender hearted.

In a city whose boast it is to be the City of Churches, and, therefore, the City of Charities, where kindness for the brute creation has induced human beings to devote both time and money to the alleviation of their misfortunes, men are left to suffer indescribable tortures before they can be conveyed to a hospital.

That I may not be accused of exaggeration, or misrepresentation, let me narrate an incident which occurred no longer ago than June.

Peter Sherry, a printer by trade, was run over by a horse car in Williamsburg at eleven o'clock in the evening. The wheel passed over his right leg, breaking both bones and mangling the soft parts, so that the connection of the leg to the thigh was little more than skin; the blood vessels were, of course, cut across and their open mouths left unclosed. He was taken to a house to wait until a wagon could be found to take him to the hospital; one man to whom application was made could not lend his horse, as the animal had been at work all day; a second one gave some other reason; and a third was finally found who took the man to the City Hospital, but not until four o'clock the following morning, five hours after the accident. It is unnecessary to add that he died the same day.

Had he been sent to the hospital immediately, the bleeding vessels tied, and his strength sustained by stimulants, who shall say that his life might not have been saved?

J. D. Hunt was run over in Williamsburg on the 30th of April, his thigh bone being broken

and the muscles, blood vessels and all, torn across by the wheel of the horse car; he died the following day.

Studley Stafford was run over by a hand car on May 1st, and died the same day.

These cases are selected because they are recent and because they were severe injuries and because they required careful transportation and the immediate attention of a surgeon. Some of them were carried from Williamsburg to the hospital in furniture or baker wagons, their broken and bleeding limbs lying on a rough board, jolted over cobblestones and handled by men, kind-hearted doubtless, but who could not stop bleeding vessels, and who did not appreciate the necessity of keeping the limbs in a state of perfect quiet.

During the year 1870, there were received in the Brooklyn City Hospital 308 accidents, many of them proving fatal in a few hours, others lingering for days and then dying, while the majority recovered and were discharged.

The variety of conveyances used to transport these patients to the hospital was as great as the variety of injuries received: carriages, boards, stretchers and wagons of all descriptions, none but the stretchers being in any way fitted for the purpose, and besides the suffering occasioned by their use a simple fracture of the bones which would be well in a few weeks was often changed into a compound fracture, the bone breaking through the skin, an injury which requires months to heal, and which sometimes necessitates amputation.

Now, for the remedy for all this evil and suffering. Let Brooklyn adopt the Ambulance System, which in New York has worked so well, and which has saved so many lives.

I would suggest that there be two ambulances, one stationed at the Long Island College Hospital, Henry, corner of Pacific street, and the other at the Brooklyn City Hospital, on Raymond street. These ambulances should each be in charge of an ambulance surgeon, and furnished with a tourniquet and other things necessary for immediate use; a telegraph line should connect police headquarters with the hospitals; the city should be divided so that accidents occurring in the eastern part of the city could be sent to the City Hospital and those in the western to the Long Island College Hospital.

A man run over by a car in Williamsburg, for instance, would be conveyed to the nearest station house, or if badly injured, left where he is; a telegram would then be sent to headquarters, and from there to the hospital; the ambulance al-

ways kept in readiness, would convey the surgeon at once to the suffering man, and his wound be dressed so that he could be safely taken to the hospital, and all this done with comparative comfort to the patient and in the shortest time possible.

Hoping that these suggestions will meet with your support and approval, I subscribe myself,
M.D.

The *Brooklyn Union*, July 31, 1871.

LET US NO LONGER ADD MURDER TO MAIMING.

Wanted, Ambulances for the Injured.

No one but an eye witness can begin to comprehend the suffering to which men, women and children are subjected, when, after the receipt of an injury, they are carried to their own houses or to a hospital, and fully to appreciate the pain and anguish of these unfortunate ones, as they are hurried over rough streets or handled by unskilled hands, is beyond the power of the most sympathizing and tender-hearted.

In a city whose pride it is to be the City of Churches, and which should, therefore, be the City of Charities, kindness for the brute has induced philanthropists to devote both time and money to alleviate their misfortunes though human beings suffer indescribable torture while they are being conveyed to places where their wounds can be properly dressed and cared for.

That there are every day in our very midst human beings whose sufferings are as intense as were those of the victims of the Inquisition, will not be a difficult task to show. The instances we are about to give are selected because they are recent and because the injuries are such as any one of us may receive in our every day life.

In June last a printer was run over by a horse car in Williamsburg at eleven o'clock in the evening; the wheels passed over his right leg, breaking both bones and mangling the soft parts to such an extent that the connection between the leg and the thigh was little more than skin. The blood vessels were cut across and their open mouths were left unclosed. He was taken to a house, here to wait until a wagon could be procured to convey him to the hospital. One man to whom application was made would not lend his horse, giving as a reason that the animal was at work all day; after some trouble a vehicle was found, but it was not until four o'clock the following morning that he reached the hospital, five

hours after the accident occurred. It is superfluous to add that he died the following day.

Had he been sent to the hospital immediately the bleeding vessels tied and his strength sustained by stimulants, who shall say that his life might not have been saved?

In April and May two other accidents occurred in which the patients were run over by horse cars, breaking legs and tearing muscles and blood vessels, demanding the immediate attention of a surgeon, and yet hours elapsed before they reached the hospital. Their broken and bleeding limbs lying on the rough bottom of a baker's or furniture wagon, jolted over cobblestones and handled by men, kind-hearted doubtless, but who could not stop bleeding vessels and who did not appreciate the necessity of keeping the injured limb in a state of perfect rest.

Similar cases have occurred and are constantly occurring in the experience of surgeons of all our hospitals, and many a physician in private practice could tell us of lives sacrificed in this inhuman treatment.

The recent case of medical malpractice which was tried in our courts and which resulted in the incarceration of the murderer, Benjamin Perry, brought out very clearly the sentiment of the profession of Brooklyn on this very point. Drs. Hutchison, Crane, Chapman and others gave it as their unqualified opinion that the ride over rough pavements in vehicles not adapted to the purpose is very injurious to sick persons, and undoubtedly brought about great exhaustion and contributed in no slight degree to the death of Emily A. Post.

Every year there are in Brooklyn alone a thousand accidents treated in the hospitals, and many in private practice, of which no record is kept.

The variety of conveyances used in the transportation of these patients to the hospital is as great as the variety of injured received, carriages, boards, wagons of all descriptions, none fitted for the purpose; often a simple fracture of the bone which would be well in a few weeks, is in this transportation converted into a compound fracture, the end of the bone tearing through the skin producing an injury which requires months to heal, and which often necessitates amputation, or is even the occasion of death.

Now, for the remedy for all this evil and suffering:

Let Brooklyn adopt the Ambulance System, which has in New York worked so well and saved so many lives. One ambulance stationed at police headquarters and in charge of a surgeon

must always be in readiness, provided with a tourniquet and everything necessary for immediate use.

An accident occurring in any part of the city is reported at once to police headquarters by telegraph, and in less time almost than it takes to tell the patient is seen by the surgeon, his wounds properly attended to, and being placed in the ambulance is under the supervision of the surgeon, conveyed to the hospital or to his house as he desires.

There are some who would desire to count the cost of such a system. To such we say that the expense to the city would be but a trifle more than it now pays for the same service, as follows:

Ambulance, tourniquet, etc.	\$300.00
Horse and harness	200.00
<hr/>	
Total outfit	\$500.00
<hr/>	
Two surgeons	\$1,000.00
Driver	700.00
Feed for horse and repair.....	300.00
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Total amount of expenses.....\$2,000.00

The city now pays about \$1,000 for its accidents. The Ambulance System would thus add \$1,000 to the city's annual expenses. Now it takes from duty two to four and sometimes six police officers for hours together. Under the proposed arrangement the officer is off his beat only long enough to report the accident to the nearest station house, and can then return to duty.

If, however, we consider the subject from a humanitarian standpoint, and we might add from a selfish one, for we ourselves may be the first to need its aid, there is nothing which is so much needed as this reform, and as the severe weather of our northern climate is rapidly approaching when every minute of exposure to the cold and rain endangers life, we cannot too soon prepare for the comfort and safety of our fellow sufferers.

Editorial, *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, Nov. 18, 1871.

AMBULANCES FOR BROOKLYN.

A perfect Ambulance System, such as in vogue in other well-governed cities of great size and importance, is needed in Brooklyn, and the offer made by the Long Island College Hospital to the Police Board, instead of being accepted as a loan, should be received as a reminder that it is lacking in this essential, and the good suggestion should be immediately acted upon. Conveyances

for the sick, the disabled, or the dead, should not be confined to the City Hospital, or to any other locality, but should be kept at all the station houses, from which in time of need they can be called into service.

In emergencies police officers cannot wait until assistance of this kind is brought from a distance; they must be in convenient proximity to it. Properly authorized persons such as would have necessarily to go to the hospital for a hand ambulance are not always to be found at a moment's warning, and perhaps when there is most necessity there would be least possibility of getting the desired article. Therefore, while the Board of Police officers rightly appreciate the considerate offer of the Hospital Regents, they should only avail themselves of the suggested idea and set to work to supply their force with these indispensable adjuncts of every well-regulated station house.

It is only the departments nearest the hospital that could under any circumstances avail themselves of this kindness, while every precinct should be amply provided.

Horse ambulances are the necessities of the most remote precincts, and the requisition is to be made for them at an early date, and when the Mayor calls the attention of the Common Council to this matter, let him by all means mention the equally important subject of hand ambulances, and in securing the one, let him receive the desired permission for the other, so that in all respects our police system shall be as efficient and desirable as any in the world.

Editorial, the *Brooklyn Union*, January 4th, 1872.

TO RELIEVE THE WOUNDED AND SICK.

A communication from Coroner Whitehill in relation to ambulances and other essentials for the prompt and efficient relief of wounded or sick persons was received by the Common Council. It reads as follows:

FROM THE CORONER.

Coroner's Office, Kings County Court House, Brooklyn, January 8th, 1872.

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Brooklyn:

Gentlemen:—At an inquest, held in December last, the following verdict was rendered, and recommendations made, viz: That Adam Hadden came to his death from excessive loss of

blood consequent upon injuries received on the 7th instant, by being run over on the South Side Railroad, and we believe that had he received immediate surgical attention his life might have been saved, and we would call the attention of the Common Council to the urgent necessity of some method of caring for the injured, and earnestly recommend that ambulances be provided, properly furnished and superintended by competent surgeons.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

L. A. WHITEHILL, *Coroner*.

This patient died at the City Hospital, and Dr. Raymond was on the Coroner's jury and wrote the verdict.

About this time Alderman William Richardson was witness to an unsuccessful attempt to resuscitate a man who was drowned in Gowanus Canal at the Hamilton avenue bridge, and became much interested in the ambulance question. He offered the following resolutions in the Board of Aldermen:

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Police be and they are hereby requested to report to the Board, at its next meeting, whether any of the following instruments, articles and appliances are kept on hand, in condition for use, at either of the police stations in the city, and in case any of them are so kept, to state specifically what instruments, articles and appliances, and at which of the stations:

First, ambulances or vehicles of any kind suitable for the transportation of sick or wounded persons.

Second, stretchers or any substitute therefor for the conveyance of sick, wounded or diseased persons by bearers.

Third—Implements or articles for the speedy rescue or assistance of persons who may be in danger of drowning; for the recovery of the bodies of drowned persons.

Fourth—Appliances for the care, resuscitation and restoration of such persons as may be rescued from the water.

Fifth—Instruments and appliances for prompt prevention and staunching the flow of blood from wounded persons until surgical assistance is procured for them, or during transportation.

Resolved, That said Commission be also requested to report what instruments, articles, vehicles and appliances are, in their opinion, necessary or desirable to be furnished for use at the police stations under their charge, for the purpose of aiding in the saving of human life, or the relief

or mitigation of the sufferings of sick or wounded persons while necessarily in charge of the police.

The resolutions were adopted. Unanimous consent was granted.

Minutes of the Brooklyn Common Council, January 8th, 1872.

THE AMBULANCE QUESTION AGAIN.

The ambulance question, which has received the attention of the authorities of late, and which has been noticed by the *Union* more than once, is just now assuming a shape that will likely produce good results in the future.

To Coroner Whitehill is due the suggestion which awakened the Common Council to this glaring defect in the police system of Brooklyn, and to his letter is credited the subsequent resolution of Alderman Richardson, which is published in another column. His assurance that Adam Hadden, who was run over on the South Side Railroad on the 7th of December, died from lack of immediate attention which could have been furnished had there been any means of conveyance at hand, and his urgent request for prompt action have been the means of properly introducing this subject at this time.

But the need has long been felt here; the absence of all such accessories at the station houses is greatly deplored; and more than once have we called attention to the various modes adopted in other large cities for the accommodation of the injured, the sick, or the dead.

Ambulances properly furnished, and under the superintendence of competent surgeons are greatly required, so greatly indeed that the Regents of the Long Island College Hospital, out of pure compassion, tendered the use of their vehicles to the use of the police force; as a kindly one and one worthy of all praise, we noticed this offer, but pointed out at the time the impossibility of making it beneficial or practically useful. Only the precincts nearest the hospital building could be assisted in this way, while the necessity for them is widespread and felt perhaps more keenly in localities remote from this place.

Police station houses should be as liberally supplied with ambulances for the quick transportation of the sick or wounded as they are with the implements or articles for the speedy rescue and restoration of persons drowning or bleeding to death. Stretchers though serviceable are not always available, and by reason of their service render more noticeable the absence of ambulances.

The Common Council should; therefore, repair this radical defect in our police system, which in many other respects is so admirable, and at once respond to the demand of the press and the people, and more than all the expressed requirements of the force, and at once give them the supply of ambulances now called for and so greatly needed.

Editorial, the *Brooklyn Daily Union*, Tuesday, January 9th, 1872.

Long Island College Hospital, Henry and Pacific Streets, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Hon. Daniel Briggs, President of the Board of Police for Brooklyn:

Dear Sir—I am instructed by the Board of Regents of the Long Island College Hospital to inform you that hand ambulances can be at all times obtained at this institution by properly authorized parties, for the purpose of conveying the victims of casualties to the hospital.

Believing that much suffering may be saved to the unfortunate by this mode of transporting them the Board entertains the hope that you will cause such notice to be given to the captains of the proper precincts as will obtain the object sought for.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

W. J. OSBORNE.

Secretary of the Board of Regents, Long Island College Hospital.

All the other hospitals, it is understood, are and long have been similarly willing and similarly equipped. Let the public make note of it.

We refer to the subject in its entire aspect elsewhere.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, January 10th, 1872.

Editorial in paper of the same date on the subject of ambulances.

Extracts from the Minutes of the Brooklyn Common Council.

Monday, January 29, 1872.

(Page 188)

By Alderman Richardson:

Petition of George C. Hall and 3,000 other citizens for the establishment of an ambulance system for the speedy conveyance of injured persons to a hospital of the city. In connection therewith Alderman Richardson offered the following: Resolved, The Common Council does hereby approve of the insertion of the sum of five thousand

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dollars in the deficiency bill now before the Legislature for the purchase and equipment of at least five ambulances for the conveyance of wounded and injured persons, and other necessary implements and appliances for the rescue of persons from water, their resuscitation, where possible, and for the prompt relief of wounded persons while in charge of the police.

Alderman Clancy moved that the resolution lie on the table for one week.

Agreed to.

Monday, February 5, 1872.

(Page 236)

By Alderman Richardson:

Petition of John (Joseph) C. Hutchison, M.D., and 115 other members of the Kings County Medical Society, for the establishment of an ambulance system for the speedy conveyance of injured persons to the hospitals of the city.

In connection therewith Alderman Richardson moved to take from the table a resolution of January 29, 1872, as follows:

Resolved, That the Common Council does hereby approve of the insertion of the sum of five thousand dollars in the deficiency bill now before the Legislature for the purchase and equipment of at least five ambulances for the conveyance of wounded and injured persons and other necessary implements and appliances for the rescue of persons from water, their resuscitation, when possible, and for the prompt relief of wounded persons while in charge of the police.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote.

Affirmative: Aldermen Miller, Dwyer, Ropes, Stryker, Clancy, Dunne, Wylie, Boland, McGroarty, Bergen, Foster, Coffey, Nolan, MacPherson, Rober, Connally, Dawson, Walter, Boggs, Brown, Richardson. Total, 21.

Unanimous consent was granted.

AMBULANCE FOR THE INJURED—A MATTER OF INTEREST TO BROOKLYNITES.

WHAT BECAME OF \$5,000 RAISED?

A prominent physician talking to an *Eagle* reporter a few days ago inquired as to the disposition of the ambulance question which was agitated about one year ago by the *Eagle* and which agitation resulted in the Common Council considering the subject and passing resolutions

thereon. He said that he believed they (meaning the Common Council) had gone so far toward the establishment of such needed ambulance system as to raise \$5,000 in the Deficiency bill, but since then there had not been a word on the subject, and he continued "I would like to know very much how the matter stands for I am deeply interested in the project, as in fact every physician in the city is."

The reporter could not say at first how the matter did stand but promised to inquire into the question, which he did yesterday morning by calling upon the Deputy Collector and interrogating him on the subject. The Deputy said that with the raising of the above sum in the Deficiency bill, the entire subject was dropped, and nothing could come of the matter unless the Common Council officially appropriated the money raised. The reporter visited the Comptroller's office for the above information at the suggestion of Alderman Richardson, who, strange to say, could not tell the reporter anything about the ambulance question; strange, because he was the author of the resolution referred to.

The feeling of the physicians throughout the city on the subject of ambulances is very strong. They think there should be established a better management for the maimed than at present, and it should be done at once. It is absolutely necessary that such a large city as Brooklyn should have a set of first-class ambulances connected with the police stations and hospitals, especially the latter. By-and-by the warm weather will be here prostrating many persons as it did last summer, and there were nearly two hundred persons carried away, and if there was a good ambulance system, so that the persons prostrated by sunstroke could be taken quietly and rapidly where they could get instant relief many lives might be saved. These physicians do not understand why the Common Council does not move in the matter, and they consider it a deep shame that Brooklyn should be so far behind the age in not having a decent way of taking care of the casualty cases that are happening day after day. One of the many physicians interviewed by the reporter tells plainly the whole story of the ambulance question as it was agitated by the *Eagle* a year ago, and in doing so expressed the sentiment of the entire body of physicians.

He says a year or more ago the *Eagle*, ever ready in the cause of humanity, brought the attention of the community to the very great need of an ambulance system, which has worked so well in New York and other cities.

The necessity for ambulances in Brooklyn was urged with forcible logic, that has ever characterized the *Eagle* on all subjects, it went into the work with a whole heart, appealing to the common sense of the community, and the common sense of the community responded back in time, quoting the argument of the *Eagle*, and saying, we want an ambulance system in Brooklyn.

In addressing itself to the subject, the *Eagle* began by revealing the then late casualties which showed the strongest necessity for a better management for the maimed. It cited instances showing the suffering caused by lack of ambulances, and pointed to several cases that resulted in death simply by being jolted over the rough streets in improper conveyances.

The attention given the subject by the *Eagle*, the stress laid upon all points had its effect, and soon there appeared letters from correspondents, heart to heart in the movement with the paper, until at last the question seemed to take root in the feelings and good judgment of the people, and there appeared bright promises of a speedy accomplishment of the object; among those first awakened to the necessity for the establishment and maintenance of ambulances in the city were the physicians, and in the interviews held by the *Eagle* representative at that time with many of them they in a body expressed themselves as glad of an opportunity to contribute toward the awakening of public interest to the importance of the subject, and some of them in their zeal went so far as to promise that if the authorities did not take hold of the question, and bring about the much needed ambulances, they would themselves establish a system of ambulances at their own expense. The board of Fire Commissioners and the Police Commissioners looked with much favor on the subject.

The Health Department believed in and approved the project, and Coroner Jones indorsed the enterprise in the most emphatic manner. At an inquest held at the Brooklyn City Hospital and conducted by Coroner Whitehill in the case of Adam Hadden, an employee on the South Side Railroad, who fell from one of the cars and was run over by four of the wheels, frightfully mangling him, the jury showed by their verdict what were their feelings respecting ambulances.

The verdict was as follows:

"In our opinion Adam Hadden, the deceased, came to his death from excessive loss of blood, after he had been run over, etc., and we believe that had he received immediate surgical attention his life might have been spared, and would most

earnestly call the attention of the Common Council to the urgent necessity of better means of transporting the injured, and recommend that there be immediately established ambulances, adapted to the purpose and furnished with tourniquets and all necessary appliances."

In accordance with the verdict, Coroner Whitehill, or Coroner Jones, soon after wrote a letter to the Common Council recommending that that body accept the sensible suggestion of the jury.

The feeling for the need of ambulances had now grown quite strong among the people of all classes, and shortly after the communication to the Common Council above referred to, at one of the meetings of the Board, Alderman Richardson offered the following resolutions, which were approved and passed by the Board:

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Police be and they are hereby requested to report to the board at its next meeting, whether any of the following instruments, articles and appliances are kept on hand, in condition for use, at either of the police stations in the city, and in case any of them are so kept to state specifically what instruments, articles and appliances, and at which of the stations.

First.—Ambulances or vehicles of any kind suitable for the transportation of sick or wounded persons.

Second.—Stretchers or any substitute therefor for the conveyance of sick, wounded, or diseased persons by bearers.

Third.—Implements or articles for the speedy rescue or assistance of persons who may be in danger of drowning; or for the recovery of bodies of drowned persons.

Fourth.—Appliances for the care, resuscitation, or restoration of such persons as may be rescued from the water.

Fifth.—Instruments and appliances for promptly preventing and stanching the flow of blood from wounded persons until surgical assistance is procured for them, or during transportation.

Resolved, That said Commission be also requested to report what instruments, articles, vehicles, and appliances are in their opinion necessary or desirable to be furnished for use at the police stations under their charge, for the purpose of aiding in the saving of human life, or the relief or mitigation of the sufferings of sick or wounded persons while necessarily in charge of the police.

The resolutions received the unanimous assent of the Board.

At this step of the Common Council which seemed to promise good results for the ambulance system high hopes were entertained by the community that their prayer for the better management for the maimed were about to be answered, and their hopes were further strengthened when soon after the passage of the above resolutions, \$5,000 were raised in the Deficiency bill for that purpose.

The question of an ambulance system has now assumed a practical shape, said thousands of our citizens, and both the rich and the poor alike thanked the Common Council for their good work; as is usually the case when the public think that they have gained their object, all further action on their part in reference to the matter ceased, and as is usually the case with the authorities when they see that the public have ceased to agitate a subject, they suddenly quieted down, and since the raising of the \$5,000 in the Deficiency bill nothing further has been said on the subject of ambulances in our city. A year has passed since the subject dropped, and still the Common Council are dumb.

Why have the Common Council not taken any further steps in the matter, said a prominent physician the other day? All it needs on their part now to end the matter is to officially appropriate the amount raised in the Deficiency bill, and order the construction of the ambulances, he added. Will the Common Council answer for themselves?

During the past year revelations of casualties have gone on unheeded and the mortality list has been swelled by the injured persons who have died from rough handling by unskilled hands in the attempt to remove them to the hospital.

Who shall say that many lives might not have been saved, if there had been a proper ambulance system? Case after case might be cited as expressing the need of ambulances; but it will suffice to narrate only a few of the many incidents.

A Swedish woman, aged thirty-one years, was received into the City Hospital on the 30th of last month, she had become pregnant, and for this reason was turned out of her place. She wandered into a store kept by a Swede, who took her to the hospital in a buggy; labor had already commenced, and a child was born soon after her admission to the institution.

Some time ago a young man was run over in

Williamsburg by the cars. His left leg, from the ankle to the middle of the thigh, was horribly crushed; it was three hours before he reached the hospital, where he soon died.

Last August a man was sunstruck at the Fulton Ferry; he was carried to the hospital in an open wagon, with the sun's rays pouring directly upon him; he died soon after his admission.

On the 21st of March, just passed, a longshoreman while working at Red Hook, had his leg badly broken by a barrel of lead falling on it; he suffered great agony and was obliged to wait nearly two hours before reaching the hospital.

Last January, a man working on a lighter had his leg jammed between his boat and a ferryboat, the bones were broken in several places, causing great suffering, and he was obliged to wait over an hour before he could get to a hospital.

"It seemed to me an age," said he. In conclusion, this gentleman hoped that so powerful a friend as the *Eagle* would again take up the cause of humanity by insisting upon the establishment of an ambulance system in Brooklyn, and he felt that every physician in Brooklyn would lend his aid.

Dr. John T. Conkling, No. 143 Remsen St., said that the whole system of removing casualty cases as we do was outrageous for a city like Brooklyn, or any other city, they were carted off without any attention paid to comfort or safety. Let a sick or maimed horse be found on the street and Bergh's men would be on hand immediately with an expressly built apparatus upon which the horse would be placed with gentleness and care, and carried to the stables in Williamsburg, with such ease that it would be a perfect comfort to the poor human creatures that are sent jolting over the hard streets. The great need of the ambulance system was simply a plain fact apparent to all, as two and two make four.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

April 5, 1873.

May 12, 1873.

By Alderman Rodman:

Resolved, That the Board of Health be and they are hereby requested to report to the Board the most useful appropriations of the moneys applicable to supply ambulances and appliances for the more prompt relief of wounded persons.

The resolution was adopted.

Minutes of the Common Council, May, 12, 1873.

Brooklyn, E. D., May 12, 1873.

By Alderman Clancy:

Petition of the Eastern District Hospital and Dispensary.

To the Honorable Common Council.

Gentlemen:—The undersigned having noticed in the *Brooklyn Eagle* an article relating to ambulances for injured caused the same to be read before the Eastern District Hospital and Dispensary at a regular meeting of the trustees, and was thereupon requested to communicate with your honorable body upon the subject and to urge the procurement of such ambulances as may be necessary and proper for the removal of sick or injured persons, and to cause one or more of them to be located in the vicinity of this hospital. The necessity for an ambulance corps in this city is admitted on all sides, and the absence of it has been the cause of more than one death of persons injured in the Eastern District.

The large number of manufactories, sugar-houses, machine and boiler shops, stone and brick yards, steam and horse railroads, ferries, coal yards and other establishments in the district, giving employment to thousands of people, afford abundant opportunity for accidents of a serious nature, and requiring careful handling and transportation, and skilful surgical and medical treatment for the individual.

The Eastern District Hospital and Dispensary is now being renovated and fitted up anew, and in a few days will be in readiness to furnish accommodations for all who may unfortunately need the same, and with a corps of skilful surgeons and physicians and nurses expect to take rank equal with any like institution of the same capacity.

The opinion as expressed by the *Eagle* in the article already referred to that the ambulance corps should be connected with the hospitals, meets with our concurrence.

The immediate object of this communication is principally for the purpose of bringing the matter to your attention, and to assure you of the cordial co-operation of this institution in any effort that may be made in this direction.

Respectfully yours,
 DEMAS STRONG,
 Committee, etc.

Alderman Rodman moved that the matter be referred to the Board of Health, and printed in the minutes.

Agreed to.

Minutes of the Brooklyn Common Council, May 19, 1873.

At a meeting of the Board of Health held May 20, 1873, "On motion, Sanitary Inspector J. H. Raymond, M.D., was instructed to procure (if possible) two ambulances from the Board of Health of the City of New York for the temporary use of this Board, and to ascertain how soon, and for what price two ambulances can be built and report the result of his investigations to the Board or to the Sanitary Commissioners."

On May 21, a "Communication of Sanitary Inspector in reference to ambulances was received and placed on file."

Inspector Raymond reported that ambulances could not be borrowed from New York. He subsequently presented a plan for the organization of the ambulance service which is formulated in the following communication from the Board of Health to the Common Council.

Office of the Board of Health,
 Brooklyn, July 12, 1873.

To the Honorable Common Council.

Gentlemen:—At a meeting of the Board of Health, held at its office July 11, 1873, it was decided in accordance with resolution of the Common Council passed May 12, 1873, to recommend the following plan as the most useful appropriation of the moneys applicable to the supply of ambulances and appliances for the more prompt relief of wounded persons.

The purchase of two ambulances, one to be located at a livery stable near the Long Island College Hospital, and the other at a livery stable near the hospital in the Eastern District, the owners of the stables to furnish for each ambulance a horse, harness, and driver, to be at all hours ready for service.

A surgeon at each of the hospitals named above to be ready to accompany ambulance at any time.

This will involve an expenditure for the year as follows:

Two ambulances at \$600 each.....	\$1,200
The use of horses, harnesses, and drivers for 12 months, at \$180 per month.....	2,160
Board for the surgeons at the hospital, each \$35 per month.....	840
Expense for connecting hospitals and stables by telegraph.....	300
Outfit, including medicines, stretchers, pocket-cases, fracture-boxes, etc.....	100
Total.....	\$4,600

This, it will be seen, leaves \$400 for all incidental expenses for the year.

I am yours very respectfully,
HENRY M. CONNELLY,
Secretary of the Board.

In connection therewith, Alderman Ropes offered the following:

Resolved, That the Board of City Works in conjunction with the Board of Health be and they are hereby directed to cause to be organized an ambulance service in such form as need may suggest, and the fund for that purpose admit. The expenses for such service to be made in conformity to the laws and ordinances of the city, and payable from the fund now in the city treasury for that object.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote.

Affirmative: Aldermen Dwyer, Ropes, Daelon, Clancy, Rodman, Wylie, McIntyre, Trawbridge, Douglass, O'Reilly, Nolan, MacPherson, Kiefer, Connolly, Eckert, Zindel, Whitney, Richardson. Total, 18.

Negative: None.

Unanimous consent was granted.

Minutes of the Brooklyn Common Council, July 14, 1873.

Communications from officers. From Mayor and Comptroller.

Brooklyn, July 21, 1873.

To the Honorable Common Council.

Gentlemen:—The Common Council of the City of Brooklyn having by a resolution adopted on the 14th day of July, 1873, directed the Board of City Works in conjunction with the Board of Health to organize an ambulance system in such form as they might deem necessary, and the said Board having decided to procure an ambulance to be located in the Western District of said city, and it appearing that the cost of said ambulance will not exceed \$600.

We, Samuel S. Powell, Mayor, and F. A. Schroeder, Comptroller of said city, do hereby certify, pursuant to Section 6 of Title 17 of Chapter 863 of the Laws of 1873, that the interest of the city requires that said ambulance be procured without calling for proposals for furnishing the same.

SAMUEL S. POWELL,
Mayor

F. A. SCHROEDER,
Comptroller.

In connection therewith, Alderman Ropes offered the following:

Resolved, That the Board of City Works in conjunction with the Board of Health be and they are hereby authorized without advertising for proposals therefor, to purchase an ambulance for the Western District at an expense not to exceed \$600, which amount is hereby appropriated for that purpose from the fund provided for by the Deficiency bill of 1871.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote.

Affirmative: Aldermen Dwyer, Ropes, Daelon, Clancy, McIntyre, McGroarty, Trowbridge, Douglass, O'Reilly, Taylor, Nolan, MacPherson, Kiefer, Connolly, Eckert, Zindel, Whitney, Richardson. Total, 18.

Negative: None.

Unanimous consent was granted.

Minutes of the Brooklyn Common Council, October 6, 1873.

On the same date the above was adopted inserting the words Eastern District in place of Western District.

The following are extracts from the annual reports of the Brooklyn Board of Health:

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Common Council having been petitioned by numerous citizens to cause the establishment of an ambulance system, obtained from the Legislature, May 24, 1872, a fund of \$5,000 for that purpose, and on May 12, 1873, they requested the Board of Health to report "the most useful appropriations of the moneys applicable for the supply of ambulances and appliances for the more prompt relief of wounded persons." This Board thereupon reported in favor of the purchase of two ambulances, one to be located near the Long Island College Hospital for the Western District of the city, and another near the Eastern District Hospital. The Common Council then, July 14, 1873, authorized this Board in conjunction with the Board of City Works, to organize an ambulance service from the fund set apart for that purpose. The necessary arrangements were then made to procure and equip two ambulances; to connect the two stations, located as above recommended, by telegraph, with the central office of the police department, and to appoint surgeons to be ready at all hours to respond to calls for the relief of wounded and persons taken suddenly sick in our streets and public places.

From August 20, 1873, when the first ambulance reported ready for service to January 1, 1875, the number of calls answered has amounted to 770, of which 551 were made by Ambulance No. 1, in the Western District, and 219 by No. 2, in the Eastern District; the total number of cases removed to hospitals or to their homes was 687. As a rule the calls have been attended to with the utmost promptness and celerity. The demands of the service are so constant and growing that a third ambulance should very soon be provided to replace the others when they require to be repaired and to meet emergencies. The accompanying summary is not complete for the earlier months. The following surgeons have served in the order in which they are named: to Ambulance No. 1, Surgeons G. W. Cushing and E. B. Jones; to No. 2, Surgeons H. C. McLean, T. W. Nadal, F. C. Talcott, and O. J. D. Hughes.

Summary of the ambulance service from the date of organization to January 1, 1875.

1873.

Ambulance No. 1.

	No. of calls.	No. of removals.
August 20th to October 1st. . .	40	40
October.	35	34
November	41	41
December	17	17

Ambulance No. 2.

	No. of calls.	No. of removals.
October	7	7
November	8	4
December	11	4

1874.

Ambulance No. 1.

	No. of calls.	No. of removals.
January	24	24
February	24	22
March	28	27
April	18	18
May	53	51
June	50	50
July	60	56
August	39	32
September	31	24
October	33	26
November	31	25
December	27	18

Ambulance No. 2.

	No. of calls.	No. of removals.
January	7	7
February	10	10
March	15	13
April	5	7
May	13	11
June	18	17
July	28	19
August	11	11
September	20	16
October	21	18
November	26	20
December	19	18

Total number of calls for Ambulances Nos. 1 and 2, 770.

Total number of removals for Ambulances Nos. 1 and 2, 687.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo. C. HUTCHISON, M.D.,

Commissioner of Health and Chairman of Committee on Report of the Board of Health.

The foregoing report, prepared by the committee, and adopted by the Board of Health, is respectfully submitted.

J. T. CONKLING, M.D.,
President.

E. L. LANGFORD,
Secretary.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Department of Health, 66 Court St.,
Brooklyn, January 18, 1877.

To the Secretary of the Board of Health.

Sir:—I have the honor to report concerning the ambulance service connected with this department, that there are three ambulances, two of which are in continuous use, one being held as a reserve.

One is stationed at the Eastern District Hospital, the other at the Long Island College Hospital in the Western District. To every ambulance is assigned a competent surgeon and supplied all those medical remedies and surgical appliances requisite for the emergencies of the service.

The invaluable work rendered by the ambulance surgeons connected with this Board, their prompt and intelligent action in the direction of the ambulances under their charge, and their

humane acts while in contact with the injured and afflicted, deserve the highest commendation.

The appointments of surgeons for this service are made only after a careful examination of the candidates and on the recommendation of the Hospital Board.

The rules and instructions governing the service are:

First.—The ambulance, while on duty, is under the entire control of the surgeon.

Second.—Cases that are able to walk are not proper subjects to be carried by the ambulance.

Third.—Before removal, if anesthetics be necessary, great caution is required in their administration.

In order to facilitate the working of this department it is respectfully recommended that parties furnishing horses may be instructed to attach two horses to each ambulance when the traveling may require such addition, and that orders be issued for providing the necessary appliances to this end.

The following table indicates the ambulance calls and the destination of the patients during the years 1875 and 1876:

1875.

Total number of calls.....	821
Patients removed to:	
Eastern District Hospital.....	75
City Hospital.....	168
Long Island College Hospital....	167
Homeopathic Hospital.....	2
St. Catherine's Hospital.....	2
St. Peter's Hospital.....	5
Bellevue Hospital.....	1
Kings County Hospital.....	1
Commissioner of Charities.....	1
Fifth Precinct Station House....	1
Home.....	333
Total.....	756

1876.

Total number of calls.....	911
Patients removed to:	
Eastern District Hospital.....	67
City Hospital.....	193
Long Island College Hospital....	197
Homeopathic Hospital.....	1
St. Peter's Hospital.....	33
St. Catherine's Hospital.....	2
Kings County Hospital.....	1

Jail.....	1
Morgue.....	1
Home.....	366
Total.....	862

Respectfully submitted,

WM. C. OTTERSON, M.D.,
Sanitary Inspector and Chief of Ambulance Service.

Attention is directed to the report of the Chief of the Ambulance Service, Doctor William C. Otterson. During 1875, the ambulances made 821 calls; in 1876, 911. In the two years 1,618 patients were properly cared for by the surgeons while in the ambulances and removed to their homes or to the various city hospitals for treatment, at an expense of \$6,544.83. The Western District ambulance is under the charge of Doctor Willard C. Otterson, and that of the Eastern District of Doctor L. E. Preble. A new ambulance was added to the service in October, 1875. This is kept as a reserve for use when the others are disabled, two being found sufficient, except under extraordinary occasions, to perform all the work of the department. During the season of extreme heat in the summer of 1876, the reserve ambulance was called into regular service, owing to the number of cases of sunstroke which it was necessary to have promptly removed to the hospital.

There is no public service performed in the city at so small an outlay of money more worthy of popular favor than this. By rendering prompt assistance in the case of accidents and furnishing injured persons a speedy and quiet conveyance to the hospital, it prevents hours of pain and suffering, besides being the means of saving many valuable lives.

The city is divided into three districts for the purpose of this service—Eastern, Western and Central; and the cases found in these are conveyed, as far as practicable, respectively to the Eastern District Hospital, the Long Island College Hospital, and the City Hospital.

The ambulance surgeons are appointed upon successful examination as to their fitness for their duties, and are stationed respectively at the Eastern District, and Long Island College Hospitals. They are always on duty, and receive no compensation for their services, except the payment of their board from the Department. They have telegraphic communication with this Department, with police and fire headquarters, with all fire and police stations, and

with the keepers of their ambulances, so that a call can be promptly transmitted to them from any part of the city, and their ambulances as speedily summoned. With such celerity do the officers of this service perform their duties, that after being called seldom does more than one or two minutes elapse before the surgeon is on his way with his ambulance, his medicines and his instruments, to succor and remove the patient.

The following ambulance surgeons have served during the years 1875 and 1876.

Upon Ambulance No. 1, in the Western District:

O. J. D. Hughes, until March 1, 1875; E. B. Jones, from March 1st to July 8th; J. C. Fisher, from July 8th to June 13, 1876; Willard C. Otterson, from June 13th, until the present date.

Upon Ambulance No. 2 in the Eastern District:

Walter Lindley, until August 20, 1875; Henry Hesse, from August 20th to March 1, 1876; Charles H. Wilson, from March 1st to July 5th; L. E. Preble, from July 5th until the present time.

The Board desires to acknowledge its appreciation of the very faithful, skilful and humane manner in which these gentlemen have discharged their arduous and important duties.

The following tables prepared under the direction of Assistant Sanitary Superintendent Joseph H. Raymond, M.D., show the work done by the various ambulances from their establishment in 1873 to June 30, 1902.

LONG ISLAND COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established in 1873.

Number of calls by years.

1873..... 133	1888.....1439
1874..... 418	1889.....1396
1875..... 567	1890.....1245
1876..... 662	1891.....1276
1877..... 884	1892.....1404
1878.....1340	1893.....1278
1879.....1572	1894.....1595
1880.....2014	1895.....1819
1881..... 993	1896.....1911
1882.....1076	1897.....2021
1883.....1205	1898.....*1146
1884..... 988	1899.....1812
1885.....1083	1900.....1763
1886.....1127	1901.....1957
1887.....1510	1902 to June 30. 915
Total.....38,549	

*8½ months' service.

The Board of Estimate of the former City of Brooklyn neglected to provide money for the maintaining and operating of ambulance service for the year 1898, so that the ambulance attached to the Long Island College Hospital did not perform any service until after money had been appropriated in April 15th, 1898, by the Board of Estimate under the City of Greater New York.

EASTERN DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established in 1873.

Number of calls by years.

1873..... 26	1888.....No record
1874..... 193	1889.....No record
1875..... 254	1890.....No record
1876..... 249	1891.....1000
1877.....No record	1892.....1051
1878.....No record	1893.....1091
1879.....No record	1894.....1012
1880.....No record	1895.....1127
1881.....1289	1896.....1266
1882.....1420	1897.....1215
1883.....1683	1898.....1208
1884.....1701	1899.....1236
1885.....2448	1900.....1348
1886.....No record	1901.....1167
1887.....No record	1902 to June 30. 502
Total.....22,486	

For the years 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, and for the years 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889 and 1890 a careful search has been made to obtain the reports of the ambulance surgeons who were in attendance at this hospital during this period, with the result of not having found same, therefore the statistics covering this period are incomplete.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Nov. 30, 1883.

Number of calls by years.

1883..... 24	1893.....1124
1884..... 401	1894..... 917
1885..... 469	1895.....1209
1886..... 466	1896.....1281
1887..... 687	1897.....1205
1888..... 713	1898.....1331
1889..... 775	1899.....1214
1890..... 889	1900.....1558
1891..... 971	1901.....1516
1892.....1129	1902 to June 30. 698
Total.....18,577	

ST. CATHERINE'S HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Aug. 1, 1887.

Number of calls by years.

1887..... 387	1895.....1251
1888..... 504	1896.....1325
1889..... 850	1897.....1480
1890.....1053	1898.....1495
1891.....1265	1899.....1529
1892.....1184	1900.....1725
1893.....1110	1901.....1608
1894.....1160	1902 to June 30. 667
Total.....18,593	

HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Jan. 1, 1888.

Reopened July 1, 1902, under direction of the Commissioner of Charities.

Discontinued service April 1, 1900.

Number of calls by years.

1888..... 376	1895.....1123
1889.....1414	1896.....1240
1890.....1301	1897.....1128
1891.....1013	1898.....1145
1892.....1152	1899.....1218
1893.....1092	1900..... 248
1894.....1156	
Total.....13,606	

WILLIAM HENRY HENRY

METHODIST EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Dec. 30, 1888.

Number of calls by years.

1888.....	35	1895.....	1178
1889.....	725	1896.....	1280
1890.....	791	1897.....	1221
1891.....	1006	1898.....	1354
1892.....	1216	1899.....	1194
1893.....	1031	1900.....	1412
1894.....	952	1901.....	1418
		1902 to June 30.	717

Total.....15,530

BROOKLYN HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established May 20, 1890.

Number of calls by years.

1890.....	971	1896.....	1777
1891.....	1465	1897.....	1559
1892.....	1569	1898.....	1516
1893.....	1503	1899.....	1601
1894.....	1649	1900.....	1980
1895.....	1693	1901.....	1948
		1902 to June 30.	1067

Total.....20,298

NORWEGIAN HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Jan. 1, 1893.

Number of calls by years.

1893.....	441	1898.....	512
1894.....	444	1899.....	676
1895.....	586	1900.....	698
1896.....	691	1901.....	698
1897.....	601	1902 to June 30.	374

Total.....5721

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established Sept. 27, 1893.

Discontinued service on June 1, 1900.

Number of calls by years.

1893.....	98	1897.....	872
1894.....	598	1898.....	1254
1895.....	765	1899.....	1068
1896.....	959	1900.....	390

Total.....6004

KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established July 1, 1898.

Number of calls by years.

1898.....	159	1900.....	352
1899.....	340	1901.....	421
		1902 to June 30.	189

Total.....1461

GERMAN HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established July 1, 1901.

Number of calls by years.

1901.....	179	1902 to June 30.	266
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Total.....445

WILLIAMSBURG HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established December, 1900.

Number of calls by years.

1900.....	38	1901.....	987
		1902 to June 30.	437

Total.....1462

CONEY ISLAND RECEPTION HOSPITAL.

Ambulance service established June, 1894.

Number of calls by years.

1894.....	152
1895.....	205

1896.....	206
1897.....	280
1898.....	307
1899.....	302
1900.....	255
1901.....	305
1902 to June 30.....	85
Total.....	2,097
Grand total for all ambulances.....	164,829

If to this grand total were added the calls of the Eastern District Hospital of which no record has been kept, the number of persons relieved by the ambulances in the twenty-nine years which have elapsed since the system was inaugurated would exceed 170,000.

Of the above thirteen ambulances, all save that connected with St. John's Hospital are now in active service.

The ownership and maintenance of the following ambulances are in the hospital authorities and for the service which they render the city in removing the sick and injured they receive respectively \$100 a month:

Eastern District, St. Mary's, St. Catharine's, Methodist Episcopal, Norwegian, German, and Williamsburgh.

The above statement is true also for the Brooklyn, except that this hospital maintains two ambulances, for which it receives a monthly compensation of \$200.

The ambulances at the Kings County, Homoeopathic and Coney Island Hospitals are the property of the city and are maintained and operated by the Commissioner of Charities.

The so-called "Long Island College Hospital" ambulance is located at a livery stable near that institution, and its maintenance is paid for by the Board of Health, the livery stable keeper receiving \$83 per month for which he furnishes horse and driver, and the other expenses are also paid by the Board of Health. The ambulance surgeon on duty with this ambulance resides at the hospital.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, IN FORCE JULY, 1902.

All districts have been abolished, and the police have been directed to notify the ambulance surgeon nearest to the case demanding the services of a surgeon.

In order to avoid unnecessary strain upon the horses of the service, the police will notify the surgeon whenever the ambulance is needed for the transportation of the patient. If the services

of the surgeon only are required he may attend the call in a light wagon.

No ambulance is to be sent in response to a call unless it is in charge of a surgeon possessing the qualifications prescribed by law for hospital internes. Ambulance surgeons must be appointed by the Board of Health and must be always on duty unless relieved by properly qualified substitutes.

Although unnecessary delay is to be avoided, ambulances must not be driven through the streets at such a speed as to endanger the lives or limbs of the public. The bell is to be rung only in crowded thoroughfares and as a means of clearing the way, the city ordinances giving an ambulance the right of way as against any person, carriage or incumbrance. It is the duty of the police to enforce this ordinance.

When called to a case, the ambulance surgeon should not attempt to do more than relieve urgent symptoms, after which he must exercise his discretion as to removal, remembering always in case of doubt, that it is better to remove a case that should be left than to leave a case that should be removed. In all cases of apparent alcoholism the possibility of the existence of other abnormal conditions should not be forgotten, and the patient should be given the benefit of every doubt and be removed. If removal is deemed advisable, the patient must be taken to his home, or to the hospital preferred by him if he expresses any choice as to destination, without interchanging; otherwise the patient must be taken to the nearest hospital.

When death occurs in transit the body should be taken home if the residence of the deceased is known; otherwise, to the morgue. When death occurs before the arrival of the ambulance, the body should not ordinarily be removed; but this rule may be violated whenever, in the opinion of the ambulance surgeon, he can serve any good purpose by the removal of the dead body.

In a case of removal to the Borough of Manhattan, the surgeon must arrange by telephone to have an ambulance meet him at the farther end of the bridge, so that the transfer of the patient may be accomplished with the least possible delay. If the appropriate hospital should refuse to receive, or should delay unnecessarily the reception of, a case requiring prompt attention, the ambulance surgeon will telephone to the Department for instructions, or if that office is closed to the residence of the Assistant Sanitary Superintendent. All orders to remove patients from one point to another, other than emergency cases,

must emanate from the Department of Health. Such calls must be responded to as promptly as though emergency work. For their services ambulance surgeons are forbidden to ask or accept any fee whatsoever.

Before returning from a call, the ambulance surgeon will write down in duplicate on slips provided for that purpose, the date, time, origin, and location of the call, the name, residence, age, nativity and occupation of the patient, and the diagnosis and disposition of the case. One of the slips is to be signed and given to the police officer in attendance on the case; the other is to be retained by the surgeon, who will add to it later the time of return. As soon as possible after the first of each month, ambulance surgeons will send to the Department of Health, in the Borough of Brooklyn, on official forms, a report of the previous month's calls.

Immediately before leaving in response to a transfer call and immediately after returning from all calls, ambulance surgeons will notify Police Headquarters.
