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Florence: American Committee for War Relief in Florence,
[1914-1918]

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UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN



**American Committee for War Relief
in Florence**

AMERICAN HOSPITAL for ITALIAN WOUNDED

**Territorial Hospital N. 10, Italian Red Cross,
Committee of Florence**

6, Via di Camerata

TO MEMBERS and SUBSCRIBERS,

The American Hospital in Florence, to which your help has been generously and repeatedly given, has completed its third year of service to wounded Italian soldiers. The American Committee for War Relief in Florence was organized five days after Italy's declaration of war on May 24th, 1915; and the hospital, which has been the Committee's chief, though not its only work, was opened for patients upon August 15th of the same year.

As the Committee was the first organized by Americans in Italy for the relief of Italians in the war, so to-day, after three years, it is still the only organization which maintains an American Hospital for Italian wounded.

From the opening of the Hospital until July 31st, of the present year, 2031 patients have been received, with a total of 78288 days of residence; 1934 have been discharged, and most of these have returned to the army, while 30 have been declared unfit for further military service and sent back to civil life. 250 major operations have been performed, and there have been 7 deaths. During the month of July, 1918, the daily average of patients was 161.

All expenses of the Hospital, including equipment and installation, have been met by the American Committee, with the exception of those pertaining to the Military Admini-

stration by the Italian Red Cross. Half a million lire have been subscribed by members and by friends in America, of which 230,000 lire were given by Americans resident in Italy.

The American Red Cross, recognizing the past usefulness of the Hospital and the unusual needs of the moment, at the time of the Italian retreat, were pleased to make a grant of 40,000 lire for the equipment of an annex. The Commission has not only given us its recognized support, but has markedly assisted the Hospital with donations of food, medicines, and surgical supplies. The A. R. C. delegate for Tuscany is their official representative on the Hospital Board.

The Hospital is furnished with 200 beds, adequate surgical equipment, an excellent apparatus for radiographs. The technical staff is Italian, and there are 38 volunteer assistants, of whom 20 are Americans by citizenship or birth.

Both the inception of the Hospital and the years of devoted service given to the alleviation of human suffering were the expression of a deep conviction that Italy's intervention in the war was grounded in right, and that the Italian people took up arms in a cause that was also our own. We believe that the conviction has been vindicated by the intervention of the United States, two years later, and by the vast and generous aid given Italy by our people, through the American Red Cross.

American troops are now in Italy and will shortly be in action upon the Italian front. We have the hope that

their wounded may eventually be cared for in our Hospital; but whether such opportunity be given us or not, we believe that the Committee may justly take pride in the fact that for three years it has stood for and served the cause of a union now realized.

At the beginning of the fourth year of the Hospital's work we feel justified, therefore, in appealing earnestly for increased interest and the continued financial support of members and other subscribers, whose past generosity we gratefully acknowledge on behalf of men who have fought our battles.

The need is urgent and immediate. Our expenses have increased greatly with the expansion of the Hospital and the abnormal rise in the cost of supplies. Our receipts, which have hitherto been adequate, have decreased. *Without concerted effort*, they will further decrease as the financial burden of the war falls more and more heavily upon Americans. But the need for the work done by this hospital grows and calls to us who love both countries and peoples.

Our subscribers have responded to previous appeals with a ready generosity which was beyond our hopes; they have thus given us confidence in their continued and even increased support at this time of urgent need, when we are asked to care for men who have been wounded in Italy's resolute and victorious defence during the recent summer. We know that the name of America is held in high honour in this land, and we believe that Italy's resistance to the common enemy at a critical moment of the war has earned

her the right to an equally honourable place in the hearts of her allies. And we appeal to you to help us to serve her sons, in the name of our common cause.

HENRY RAWLE WADLEIGH, Chairman

JOHN G. HAGEMEYER, Treasurer

MABEL L. HASTINGS, Secretary

For the Committee.

400 Dollars endow a bed.

200 to 300 Dollars support a large ward for a month.

100 Dollars support a small ward for a month.

20 Dollars pay all expenses of one soldier for a month.

75 CENTS pay all expenses of one soldier for a day.

Contributions from subscribers in Europe, should be sent to

JOHN G. HAGEMEYER, Treasurer,

123, Via Boccaccio, Florence, Italy.

In America, contributions should be sent to

Miss MARY S. NIXON, Acting Treasurer in America

2719 Pine Grove Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

or

Miss A. D. HANKS.

360 W. 57th Street, New-York.

Further information and printed matter may be had upon application to the above.

Treasurer's Statement

June 1st, 1915 to June 30th 1918

<i>Receipts</i>	Lire	<i>Expenditures</i>	Lire
From subscribers resident in Italy . .	230,000.00	Cash Expenses . . .	391,007.77
From sources in America	298,240.29	Value of Furniture .	48,518.90
	<hr/>	Cash balance	88,713.62
	528,240.29		<hr/>
	<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

The cost per patient per day for the period was Lire 5.19.

GENERAL BOARD

HENRY RAWLE WADLEIGH

Chairman.

Miss MABEL L. HASTINGS,

Secretary

Lieut. JOHN G. HAGEMEYER, A. R. C.

Treasurer.

Capt. ALBERT AKIN, A. R. C.

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Mrs. FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN DUMONT

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