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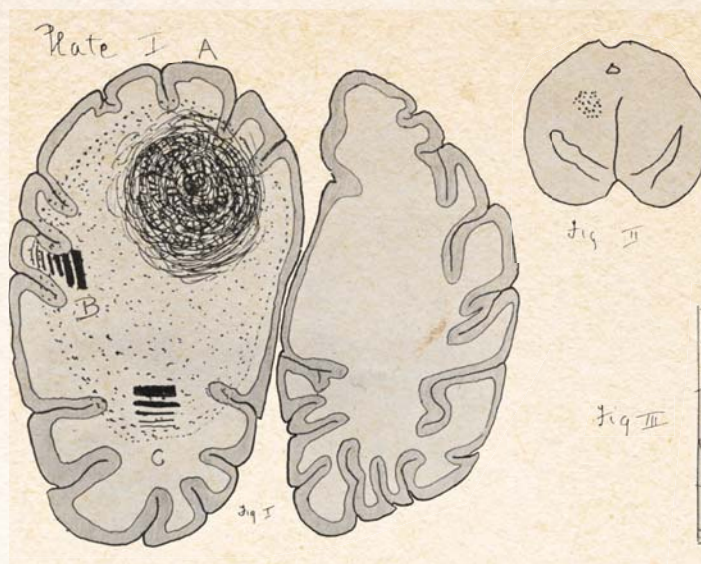
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Highlights from our 1914 archives



Hand-drawn illustrations from an article published in the MJA on 28 November 1914, by Dr John Wallace and Dr Oliver Latham, titled "A case of sudden dementia from massive cerebral glioma of unusual nature"



Britain's call

Britain has need of her medical sons, and will certainly not call in vain.

In her hour of trial, with a possibility, nay probability, of numberless citizens of the Empire lying wounded or sick on the field of battle, she looks to the medical profession to volunteer to bring succour to the wounded and those affected by contagious diseases which always abound when armies oppose one another in warfare.

We have nothing to do with the cause of war; we are not, in our professional capacities, concerned with the justice or wisdom of strife. The medical profession knows no nations and no races. The medical profession has but one aim, viz, to prevent disease from occurring, and to cure it wherever and whenever it breaks out.

No sacrifices are too great for the profession

in its continuous struggle against trauma, disease and death.

The ingenuity of the surgeons of every country will be brought to bear ... and ordinary surgery will be modified to become adapted to the sorry conditions of the battlefield.

The volunteer who joins the expeditionary force must be prepared to sharpen his wits to the utmost and to give his best to the cause of humanity and to his country. We know the profession in Australia will respond promptly and readily to the call, and that within the next few days will send forth numbers of its best men to follow the one humane aspect of war — to look after those who have fallen under the murderous weapons which characterise the civilisation of the 20th century.

Editorial, 15 August 1914 (edited extract)



The Medical Journal of Australia

Sir: On the eve of the production of the first number of the "Medical Journal of Australia", I desire, as President of the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association, to offer to you the best wishes of its members.

The first issue of the new journal is an occurrence of greater importance than anything that has happened in the history of the medical profession in Australia, not even excepting the foundation of the Australasian Medical Congress, since the new journal symbolises the intimate union of all the Branches of the BMA in Australia, and it will continue every week to indicate and advocate the common aims, interests and ideals of the profession.

We in Victoria are confident that you will use wisely, and well, a power that has never hitherto in Australia been placed in the hands of one medical man to use for the presentation and advocacy of the requirements and ambitions of our profession, and we assure you of our continued cooperation and support in your onerous task.

Our fondest wish to the "Medical Journal of Australia" and to yourself is "prosperere, procedere, et regna".

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours very faithfully

A L Kenny, Melbourne

22 June 1914 (edited extract)