

ESHOM, ELDON D.  
July 30, 1897-February 16, 1917

NEWS ITEM:

DIFFICULT OPERATION FOR BRAIN ABSCESS CAUSED BY PIECE HAY

An operation of unusual interest, because of its delicate and dangerous nature, and also because of the incident which necessitated it, was performed yesterday by Dr. Phifer at the Wheatland hospital. The patient was Eldon Eshom, the 19-year old son of G.T. Eshom, living 15 miles west of town.

About three weeks ago while handling hay, the young man said a beard from a piece of foxtail entered his ear and all efforts to remove it failed. After a few days, a soreness developed, but it was neglected and resulted in the formation of an enormous abscess at the base of the brain. It is believed the piece of foxtail worked its way thru the ear deep into the head and caused the serious infection.

When Eshom was brought to the hospital Monday, there was an enormous swelling on the side of his head. It was decided that a prompt operation was the only thing that could possibly save his life, and this was performed Tuesday morning. It was found necessary to cut away a portion of the skull in order to reach the abscess which extended several inches under the base of the brain. The abscess was located and successfully drained, yielding a full half pint of pus. It is consider miraculous that the patient lived so many days in this condition. The boy's father was present and witnessed the operation and expressed himself astounded at the possibilities of modern surgery and devotedly grateful for the presence of an institution close at hand where such services could be obtained. At present writing, the patient is doing nicely and strong hopes for a complete recovery are entertained.

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