

had managed to hold their ground during the second battle of Ypres. For seventeen days and nights on end they kept the Germans off by their artillery fire, though if the enemy had only known how weak their line was, and how inadequately supported, they would not have had much difficulty in breaking through. A man is a hero who has lived through such a time as that! This particular hero is known to his friends as a poet. I think he is also something of a philosopher. And his medical work is no less well done because of the distinction he brings to it from other fields.

An army marches on its stomach, and no medical or other hospital could be well run without a good kitchen. This and other departments of the administration side, I had the opportunity of inspecting under the guidance of the Quartermaster, whose great ability and experience have made him one of the most valuable members of the unit. The daily and weekly expense accounts are kept with military as well as business exactitude, and after studying the various tabulations, I could not but commend the successful efforts for some reduction of expenditure, and for various economies in what is likely to finish as a war of economy all round. In company with the O.C. and other officers of the unit, I took various trips to the town and its neighbourhood. Boulogne was once a walled city; you can walk round it and count its towers and battlements. The old chateau of the Counts of Boulogne is now used as a barracks, and its chapel, crypt and dungeon are well worthy of a visit. In the last named we created some amusement by asking our French soldier-guide if he did not think it would be a good place for William! Such pleasantries are not ill-timed, for there is a look of sadness about the people, in spite of their grim determination, that contrasts painfully with the usual gaiety of France. It struck me that two out of every three of the women were wearing black. This was painfully evident when one of the factories opened its doors for the midday meal. In the near neighbourhood of this factory are the headquarters of the Canadian Red Cross in France. Here are stored all the