

call of duty, is not likely to desert him amid the dangers and emergencies of the battle line.

We would not pass from this subject without a warm tribute to the fine courage unselfish devotion, and efficient service rendered by our Sisters of the nursing profession, without whose faithful and efficient help the work of the medical and surgical services could not have been done. The nursing profession has indeed gone far since, amid the pestilential hospitals and fever haunted camps of the Crimea, the devoted Florence Nightingale blazed the road and pointed the way for the nursing sisterhood for all the years that follow.

On the purely technical or scientific side, the response to the great emergency has been in every way creditable and in some respects revolutionary in character: the outstanding fact being the great triumph of preventive medicine.

Typhoid infection which in some previous wars had been responsible for a mortality greater than that from the bullets of the enemy has been so controlled as to become a practically negligible quantity, and this too in face of local conditions of the most unfavorable kind. Tetanus, greatly dreaded, especially on the western war front on account of the unfavorable soil conditions due to intensive cultivation has been in large measure eliminated as a result of the routine employment of the prophylactic serum. I need not weary you with further reference to matters with which you are all familiar and I mention them only because of their large importance during the year that is past. So too the available facts in the purely surgical records of the war shows, as was expected, an improved technique in the management and drainage of septic wounds making possible a conservative surgery which has resulted in a large saving of human life and avoidance of mutilation quite impossible under older methods and in itself constituting a bright epoch in surgical history.

While our attention has been focused, on the immediate events of the war, we must not forget the many pressing problems which are crowding upon us as a result of the same. The problem of the returned soldier, and his relation to society, considered both from the moral and industrial point of view. The problem of the disabled soldier, and the duty of the state to aid him in his effort to return to a civil occupation which shall make him a useful member of society. The care and education of the blind. The question of pensions. These are a few among the many pressing questions of the present hour in which medical men are specially interested. This is neither the time nor the place to discuss any of these matters in detail. Canada, her population and resources considered has played a brilliant part in this great world conflict, and