

delegate to him. He must be very tactful in carrying out his work, and while overseeing sanitary conditions and pointing out, advising, and insisting with all his might on sanitary precautions, must always remember that it would be destructive to discipline to personally order any men of the unit to do sanitary work, unless these men have been placed especially under his command for the purpose. Such a proceeding would be looked upon in the army very much in the same light as a householder would regard the action of a municipal sanitary authority who, perceiving some insanitary condition or other on the premises, would come unannounced into his house and order about his servants. The offence is equally glaring, and the feeling of resentment would be much the same. The proper course would be for the authority to deal with the householder, who alone has the right to order his servants about. In the same way, the sanitary officer must work through the unit's commanding officer, and so on down the chain.

In this way the sanitation of the troops employed in the zone of operations is maintained. Each unit is responsible for the health of its personnel and for the maintenance of the sanitary condition of the area it occupies, no matter for how short a time. Questions involving special knowledge and co-operation, such as the outbreak of epidemic disease, the occurrence of polluted food or water supplies, are referred for advice to the sanitary officer attached to the staff of the A.M.O.

In addition to the above personnel, the War Establishments of the British Army provide for a small detachment of technically trained men from the R.A.M.C., to be attached to each unit to carry out the duties connected with water purification. These detachments take charge of the unit's water carts, and are available for such other technical duties as the regimental medical officer may require to have performed. These detachments vary from 1 to 5 men, in accordance with the size of the unit. Owing to the different conditions in this country, with its scattered population and large water courses, and trusting to simplification of water purification in the future (especially when dealing with the temporary use of polluted water supplies) which the hypochlorite treatment leads us confidently to expect, similar de-

tachments have not been provided for in the War Establishments of the Canadian Militia. Instead, however, each Field Ambulance has had a sanitary section consisting of one sanitary officer, one N.C.O., and four men attached to its personnel. As there are three Field Ambulances in each Division, the A.M.O. has three of these sanitary sections at his command, which he may use when required, throughout the Division, to carry out such technical duties as the purification of water, disinfection, and sanitary inspection, or to co-operate with any unit involved in such special difficulties as the stamping out of epidemic disease.

This is, in brief, a description of the system under which the sanitation of the ever-moving troops of the army in the zone of operations is maintained. Practically everything is left to the individual units, under the general supervision and direction of the A.M.O., aided by his sanitary officer and the personnel of the three sanitary sections of the field ambulances, which he may detach for duty throughout the Division as exigencies may require.

The sanitation of the troops on the lines of communication is maintained in an entirely different way. Of course, the troops allotted to lines of communication for defence purposes, and troops marching along the roads in column of route, preserve their unit integrity and are, therefore, held amenable to the same regulations as govern the troops in front; but many of the troops passing up and down the lines have lost for the time being their unit integrity. They are simply passengers, and as such must depend upon the sanitary conveniences provided for them at the various stopping places. The same in a greater degree applies to the convoys of sick and wounded passing back towards the base. Again, at the various centres and posts are gathered large masses of men made up of details of technical troops and civilian employees with no unit organization whatever. It becomes evident, therefore, that the unit-system of sanitation can no longer apply, and that a system based on the sanitation of areas irrespective of the troops occupying them must be evolved.

Now for the purposes of administration the lines of communication are divided into administrative districts and posts, each un-