

are likely to remain for some time, public buildings afford more comfortable quarters than tents and are better suited for the services of the nursing sisters.

As the troops advance and the lines of communication are extended it becomes necessary to establish other resting places for the sick and wounded. General and stationary hospitals, as they are called, are organized along the line of communication and are conveniently placed with reference to railway facilities, good roads and the amount of accommodation already existing in the shape of suitable public buildings, etc. These depots, which may be from fifty to one hundred miles apart are intended to house from 100 to 200 or 300 patients. One after another these stationary hospitals are organized, taking up positions as far advanced as safety will permit and near enough to the field hospitals to afford a rapid evacuation of the latter. As the army gets more afield it becomes necessary for the medical organization to be more self-contained and moveable. To meet these requirements we have the independent unit known as a field hospital. In an army corps of 40,000 men there are 13 such units. These are distributed as follows:—

- 1 Reserve field hospital with the commander-in-chief.

- 1 with each divisional commander.

- 2 to each division. This makes on an average about one field hospital to every 3,000 men. A field hospital is a moveable concern capable of accommodating temporarily one hundred patients. Its personnel consists of five officers, viz: 4 medical officers and a quarter master with 35 non-commissioned officers and men. The ground required for its encampment is 70 by 160 yards and its equipment consists of 40 tents distributed as follows:—

There are twenty-five tents for the sick and wounded. These tents will accommodate four patients each excepting in the case of the severely wounded who require more room and more attention when two only are put in a tent. Immediately in rear of the patients' tents are three tents—the surgery, the operating and office tents. Next to these are four tents for the Non Commissioned Officers and men of the Royal Army Medical Corps as nurses, etc., while close to these are the two water carts and kitchens, one of each on either side. Still further to the rear are three tents for the officers and behind all the horse lines and wagons and four tents for the men of the Army Service Corps. Outside of all in the rear is the mortuary tent.

By day a field hospital is recognized by a white flag with a red cross in the centre and by night by two horizontal white lights. At retreat, when the flag is lowered, a red lantern is run up.

The medical equipment for a field hospital consists of:—

- 2 surgical haversacks and water bottles.

- 2 medical companions and water bottles.

- 2 pairs field medical panniers.

- 1 fracture box.

- 1 pair field surgical panniers.