

and the scene will be constantly shifting, amid strange, unexpected, and probably hostile surroundings. Under such conditions it may readily be understood that any system devised to maintain sanitary conditions must be based on the military unit itself and not on the area it occupies. Each unit must be trained to completely look after its sanitary needs, and undertake such rough and ready sanitary precautions as experience has proved necessary, without relying in any way on outside help.

With the troops on the lines of communication the problems presented are entirely different. Here the troops are practically stationary, quartered in cities, towns, posts and camps along the various roads, railways and waterways connecting the army in front with the base of supplies and the zone of distribution, in the rear. The problems involved now are those connected with the sanitation of areas. The system that will successfully cope with such conditions must, therefore, take on many of the functions of a municipal sanitary authority.

To meet these different conditions the following systems have been devised. For purpose of illustration, let us suppose that the part of the army in the zone of active operations consists of one Division (roughly 19,000 men). The General Officer Commanding the Division is responsible for the health of his men and the maintenance of all possible sanitary precautions. His adviser in these matters, and the one to whom he largely delegates these duties, is the Administrative Medical Officer of the Division. The A.M.O., however, besides being the sanitary, is also the medical adviser of his chief, as well as being the commanding officer of all the medical units in the Division; therefore, he is allowed a sanitary officer to help him in this phase of his work. This officer's especial duty is to oversee and coordinate the sanitation of the units composing the Division, and to keep the A. M. O. informed of the sanitary condition of the troops and suggest such steps as he may consider necessary to be taken from time to time to avoid disease. For sanitary purposes the Division may be considered made up of several independent units, whose commanders are each responsible to the general officer commanding for the sanitation of their units and the health of their

men. These units are of various sizes, consisting of battalions of infantry, regiments of cavalry, brigades of artillery, groups of engineer troops, supply columns and parks, and field ambulances. Each unit has a regimental medical officer allotted to it, who is the sanitary adviser of the commanding officer. Acting on his advice the unit commander carries out such sanitary precautions as the circumstances under which the unit is placed may call for, and which military exigencies may allow. For this work, if necessary, the commanding officer may employ all the personnel under his command, but usually one N.C.O. and 8 men per battalion (that is one man per company), or a smaller quota for small units, are considered sufficient to maintain sanitary conditions, once the field sanitary constructions necessary have been made by a fatigue party. The nature and extent of these constructions will vary with the local conditions, nature of the ground, and length of stay. The great rule that must be observed, unless prevented by tactical reasons, is that no ground surface or water supply is to be polluted; and that all places at which stops, no matter how temporary, have been made, must be left as clean on departure as before arrival. How this rule may best be carried out in each case is left to the commanding officer acting on the advice of his sanitary adviser; but the result must be satisfactory. The plan of incinerators, foul-water sinks, latrines and urinals decided upon are minor considerations, the main thing is that all organic waste material whatever must be burnt whenever possible, and if not, then buried and the burial places plainly marked with raised mounds of earth. No troops should be allowed to fall out at the mid-day or evening halting places, before latrines have been dug and the water supplies guarded. When billets are allotted no houses (except those found inhabited by cases of contagious disease) are to be rejected for sanitary reasons. In such cases, especially if the occupation extends for more than one night, it is the duty of the commanding officer or of such officer as he may delegate to carry out his duties in this connection, to see that these billets are rendered sanitary by the men occupying them.

The regimental medical officer is a sanitary adviser and has no executive duties, except such as his commanding officer may