

## WITH A FIELD AMBULANCE AT YPRES

the cases, for the ambulance train running to the base will seldom take more than one type of infectious disease; but with the help of a convoy of motor ambulances the difficulty can usually be overcome.

A certain amount of bacteriological knowledge comes in very handy in this work. For instance, a few days ago the ambulance brought a patient to the door. His face was very inflamed, and on his cheek were a number of pustules. Before admitting the case I pricked one of these blisters, smeared the contents on a slide, and in a few minutes was able to demonstrate under the microscope large numbers of anthrax bacilli. The case was one of anthrax, and was at once sent further down the line for surgical and serum treatment. A fortnight ago I saw another case of anthrax of the cheek, in which the infection had come from the furry coat of the soldier, who had used it as a pillow. It is, however, in typhoid and cerebro-spinal meningitis that a bacteriological examination is of the greatest value.

*April 13, 1915.*

It is quite an age since I made an entry in this diary, because nothing very star-