

brigade-surgeon, brigade-surgeon-lieutenant-colonel; deputy surgeon-general, surgeon-colonel; surgeon-general, surgeon-major-general. These titles carry precedence and other advantages, and relieves the friction as to relative rank. They moreover facilitate command and discipline, and give greater authority and respect to the office.

There is at present an establishment of 10 surgeon-major-generals, 24 surgeon-colonels, and 50 brigade-surgeon-lieutenant-colonels available for administrative work, also an average of 763 executive officers, as well as 35 quartermasters of the Army Medical Staff. The Medical Staff Corps consists of 3,000 officers, n.-c. officers and men, the whole under a director-general. There are also a militia and volunteer medical staff and staff corps, and a nursing service, both army and volunteer. The latter consists of lady superintendents, senior nursing sisters and nursing sisters. They are called on for foreign as well as home service, and are retired at sixty with a pension. The duties of the medical staff in peace consist of: The general treatment of the sick; the careful regulation of sanitation of the troops; the examination of recruits; invaliding of men unfit for service; management of various classes of hospitals; the command, discipline and interior economy of the Medical Staff Corps. Medical officers are rarely placed in charge of regiments now, the work being done by the station hospital.

In time of war the arrangements for medical service with an army in the field are: A medical officer is attached to every regiment or corps. To each brigade a bearer company and a field hospital is detailed. For each division an additional field hospital is allowed; for an army corps, ten field hospitals and six bearer companies. The entire medical service is under the command of a surgeon-major-general. When a soldier is wounded he is attended as soon as possible by the surgeon attached to his corps. He is carried to the collecting station by the bearers. He is then placed on transport vehicles and passed on to the dressing station, 2,000 yards from the fighting line. These two stages comprise the "first line of assistance." From the dressing station he is passed by road or rail to the field hospital, which is placed beyond the range of artillery fire. Here he remains for two or three days, if necessary. This forms the "second line of assistance." When the distance is great "hospitals on the line of assistance" are formed, and the wounded are carried by easy stages to the base hospital. This forms the "third line of assistance." Invaliding boards are held, and the men are either sent home or to the front. The last stage is embarkation for England, where he is received at Netley Hospital.

*(To be continued.)*