

MY YEARS IN THE KAISER'S ARMY

to bury them, for we were endeavouring to capture the Belgian General Staff, with their King, and so we had a forced march right through to Brussels, where we arrived only just too late.

"As I have already told you, something had happened to my head, and as no man could be then spared, I was attached to the Intelligence Department. Brussels was overrun with spies, not all German, and we had the duty of arresting suspects; most of them were shot without trial on the orders of the commanding officer. We had been delayed for a fortnight by the defence of the Belgians, and we had yet to smash Antwerp before capturing Paris. So you will understand that we had no time for field court martials, and, moreover, we knew they were guilty.

"Things seemed to be going bad for us before Antwerp. It was not long before we could hear the screeching of the guns, and then the wounded came in. Liège was left far behind.

"What I expected happened, and the day drew near when I, with the other convalescents, went out to the front. As we drew near the battle-line the stench became horrible. I was enrolled in my old regiment, and after a lot of skirmishing and wild fighting we were told off to rest, as