## THE MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE UNIT

minor discomforts as unlimited mud, the occasional flooding of a ward and the distressing flapping of canvas when the Vardar wind blows are now known no more. Water laid on, shower baths, electric light and all modern conveniences alleviate the horrors of war as seen in a Base Hospital.

The original hospital consisted entirely of tents, the regulation Canadian hospital tent or Hubert, a large khaki coloured ridge tent with a white fly, which was later painted with mud on account of predatory aeroplanes. These tents were arranged in rows of six end to end and communicating with each other, and as such constituted the wards. There were 26 at first. The orderly room, bath house, Registrar's department, dental clinic, operating room, Xray department, and laboratory were all housed in tents as well and approximately in the middle line of the hospital, the wards being on either side. Excresences in the form of isolation wards, fumigators and pack stores developed from time to time. As the hospital has been constantly growing other wards were added on occasions and interfered with the original pattern. The Sisters lived luxuriously in E.P.I.P. tents, marquees of an indian pattern and manufacture, and the officers and men were reasonably comfortable in the ordinary bell.

In spite of being amongst so much disease the health of the unit has been excellent. It is true there have been casualties of a minor nature and officers, sisters and men have all been invalided, but none were at all seriously ill and those who were invalided had every expectation of recovering in a less "extreme climate". The only really serious loss was the dentist as he was not replaced and unfortunately the dental department was demoralized on that account. Where any other loss occurred a rearrangement or reinforcement filled the vacancy, and continuity, the soul of any Military organisation was secured. The percentage of sickness even in the unit was very low and there were only two or three cases of malaria. Other hospitals were evidently not so fortunate and no doubt our freedom from disease must be attributed very largely to the situation of the encampment. Flies of the common house fly order were a positive abomination during the early summer, but while the very hot and dry weather lasted they almost disappeared. Mosquitoes were never a pest, though an odd one is seen in every month of the year.

Now as the unit has practically completed a year in Salonika it will be interesting to see whether there is a repetition of the order of disease. This however is not at all likely, as new diseases may appear or what is much more probable the results of Malaria will complicate practically everything. At all events it has been an unique experience and we hope we have done our share and only regret that we have been unable to do more.

## Capt. J. E. Campbell.

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