

prolonged standing in a confined space, and much the same effects were reported amongst men who had to stand for long periods in train corridors.

We thought that the continuous current of cold air which is drawn in through the turrets of tanks causing chilling of the commanders' legs might be an aetiological factor.

I advised our tank commanders to take every possible opportunity of getting out and lying on the ground with their legs well elevated, but, as tank men are notoriously averse to dismounting during battle, I later concentrated attention on devising a simple sling seat which could be hooked on to the turret and adjusted to the individual commander's needs, and this seemed to give good results in training.

It is, however, not easy to persuade tank commanders to sit during battle, as, when standing, the possibility of footwork gives them better command of the whole field of view.

If the attention of tank designers has not been directed to this problem, then it should be; and another important point is the well-known fact that in battle there invariably protrudes from thousands of pounds worth of armour the most valuable piece of mechanism in the tank—the commander's head quite unprotected in a black beret.

He will seldom use his expensive periscope, but a bullet-proof perspex dome might give him protection from small arms fire and splinters from near misses.

I am, etc.,

F. M. RICHARDSON,
Colonel.

Colonel F. M. Richardson,
H.Q. Hamburg District.
July 16, 1947.

Notice.

THE CONSULTANTS' PRIZE.

THE Consultants to the War Office and the Armies in the Field in the late War have presented a sum of money to the R.A.M.C. in order to found a Consultants' Prize, to be competed for at intervals of one to three years.

This prize will be awarded for the first time in 1948 and will be to the value of 25 guineas. The prize is open to serving officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, holding a regular or a short service commission.

The first prize will be awarded for an essay of not more than 10,000 words on a professional subject, based on the author's own experiences between 1939 and 1946. It is hoped that these essays will ensure that valuable war experience which would otherwise be lost will be recorded for future guidance and possibly for publication.

Entries should be sent in through the usual channels, so as to reach the Hon. Secretary, R.A.M.C. Prize Funds Committee, R.A.M. College, Millbank, London S.W.1, not later than August 1, 1948.