

War brings to us the strangest contradictions of principle. The commandment "thou shalt not kill" is outlawed, replaced by a strange new beatitude - blessed is he who shall kill and shall starve all those created enemies by public declaration.

But surely our fellow Canadians who sail with the combatant forces take no joy in this new code of morals nor in the death of any individual German. No doubt, that General MacNaughton has called this expedition a crusade and that their defeat might mean the overthrow of democracy, the loss of an individual freedom which many of us would prize more dearly than our lives.

In these times how much more fortunate is a physician than his non-professional brethren! You medical officers who have answered the call are going overseas not to kill and destroy but to save lives, to relieve suffering and to fortify the spirits of men when at the lowest ebb they find themselves demoralized by terrors that for the moment they cannot face. At a time of great crisis you may go to do the very thing that fired you to enter medicine.

Furthermore, this unit is unique. It aims to save those wounded men who in other



wars and with other armies have been abandoned to die because their condition was too desperate to treat on the field of battle. You hope to salvage the characters of those soldiers whose spirit has broken under fire and to do it before they have been allowed to acknowledge to themselves their personal defeat.

We who remain behind will go over with you in spirit. We will support you as best we can, and will come to your assistance when our turn shall come.