Correspondence

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND,
LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS,
LONDON, W.C.2.

2nd June, 1954.

MY DEAR HARRIS,

Thank you very much indeed for sending two cheques for £15 15s. each to cover the cost of two chairs in our new Great Hall. I am most grateful to the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps for their generosity in making this handsome donation to the College and I can assure you that my Council and I are delighted to know that the Corps is to be commemorated in the College in this way. The gift will be yet another reminder of the happy relationship which has always existed between the Army and this College, and I should be glad if you would convey my deep appreciation to all the officers who have made this presentation possible.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Cecil Wakeley,
President.

Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Harris, K.B.E., C.B.,
Director-General, Army Medical Services.

Matters of Interest

HYDRAULIC STRETCHER GEAR

A new Hydraulic Stretcher Gear which enables heavy patients to be loaded into the top tiers of a four-berth ambulance was exhibited at the Commercial Motor Show by Appleyard of Leeds Ltd. (Coach Building Division).

The unit is simple in design and foolproof in operation.

The upper tier stretcher gear, supported on four pivoted tubular steel arms, is raised or lowered hydraulically from a lever-actuated pump built into the step-well at the rear of the ambulance. In its lowered position it descends into exactly the same position as the lower tier stretcher gear and accessible controls are at hand to regulate the speed of the operation.

Safety devices are incorporated which automatically lock the tubular arms in a vertical position at maximum height, and it is impossible to close the doors of the ambulance until this lock has been effected. In addition, a restrictor valve in the hydraulic cylinder safeguards against fault in the hydraulic system. In the unlikely event of a leakage, the top tier can only descend very slowly and gently without any danger to the patient.

The lower tier is the standard Morris Commercial low loading pattern which allows patients to be loaded without the attendants entering the ambulance, and without any lifting whatsoever.