EDITORIAL

In a previous editorial we commented that the surgeon handled the scalpel and the pen with equal skill.

This comment is well illustrated by two papers which we print.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. S. Owen-Smith in a masterly paper examines the problem of Casualties in Armoured Fighting Vehicles. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to improve on his presentation which is factual, objective and informative.

The Author clearly shews what we may expect in a present day Armoured conflict and rightly stresses the need for early first aid, resuscitation (including attention to the Airway) and rapid evacuation to Specialist Centres.

We look forward to more papers from his pen.

Sir Rodney Smith in his Mitchiner Memorial Lecture on “Some Masters of Surgical Aphorism”—equally displays his skill with the pen.

The whole lecture is a tour de force and flows effortlessly from start to finish. Many lectures depend on the skill of the lecturers for their success. Not Sir Rodney—we did not hear his lecture but have read it and were held spell bound to the very end. To read it is to appreciate how polished a piece of prose is; it is the distillate of a lifetime’s surgical experience.

We count ourselves fortunate to publish it in our journal.

Colonel Commandant R.A.M.C.

Major-General R. J. Gray, C.B., M.B., B.S., F.F.C.M., late Royal Army Medical Corps, has been appointed a Colonel Commandant R.A.M.C. from 16th February 1977.