

A very noticeable feature in regard to the men returning now from the front as compared with even a few months ago, is their greatly increased hopefulness and optimism regarding the war.

The men from Ypres were rather dejected and hopeless; those from the Somme are very optimistic and hopeful, and full of praise of the overpowering weight and marvellously accurate shooting of our Artillery, of our greatly superior air-craft service, and of the superiority in numbers and morale of our troops.

They all seem satisfied that we can at last beat the Germans in all departments, and that a big German withdrawal may not be far off.

On 1st September our new Matron, Miss E. H. Hardinge, from Toronto, commenced her duties, and met with a hearty welcome from the Staff and patients alike. The weather during the month was wet and cold, but whenever it was fine enough the patients were out in the grounds doing light gardening work, and taking part in various games on the lawns. On wet days Quoits, Skittles, etc., are played in the Palm House, or on the Terrace.

The bad weather and shortage of gasoline consequent on the Government restrictions, caused a slight curtailment in the motor-drives, but these continue to places of interest in London, which lately have included the houses in southern London wrecked by the recent Zeppelin raids, and the open-air performances and street processions taken part in by the French National Band (La Garde Republicaine), now on a week's visit to London.

Our boys enjoyed two or three more Garden Parties in the early part of the month, but the season for these is now over, and in-door entertainments and concerts are taking their place. In the cold, dark evenings the Billiard Room and the large Recreation Hall prove a great boon and are greatly appreciated. In the Recreation Hall, in addition to a large supply of books, magazines and newspapers, the men can enjoy games of Chess, Draughts, Dominoes, etc., and the Gramophone is always "busy" discoursing a varied selection of songs, speeches, orchestral, and the ever-popular Bagpipe music.

Whist Drives are organized by the Matron and Nurses, in which they and many of the patients take part of an evening, for small prizes presented by London friends. There are always a number of good singers and pianists among the men, and during the evenings they gather around the piano, and join in their favorite songs.

During September the men took part in the following amusements and outings, all of which were very much enjoyed and appreciated:

Our good friend and neighbor, Mr. R. B. Leech, as in the past, has had on several occasions small parties of men to his house for tea, in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons. On

two afternoons also he had parties of four men at a Variety Theatre performance, followed by tea. Another afternoon a party of four went mulberry gathering in his grounds. On two other afternoons, small parties of men, accompanied by two of the Nurses, went on a black-berry-gathering expedition in his grounds. The fruit on each occasion was proudly brought back to the cook at "Kingswood," to be made into pies for all the boys, and certainly no pies ever tasted half so good! He also sent a quantity of large, delicious dessert pears from his gardens, enough to go round all the boys after their Sunday dinner. As hitherto, he continues to send us weekly from his gardens and hot-houses large quantities of beautiful flowers for the decoration of the rooms in the Home.

On 2nd September, 25 men attended the Military sports, followed by a tea, organized by the local Volunteer Regiment at Anerley, nearby. On 2nd September, 6 men attended a small garden party and tea at a neighbor's house. On 6th September, 20 men, by the kind invitation of Lady Allan and Miss Mathews, went to one of the principal Picture Shows in London to see the official war pictures of the Battle of the Somme, and afterwards enjoyed tea at the Maple Leaf Club for Canadian soldiers, in Oxford street. On 9th September, a party of four ladies gave a concert for an hour after the men's supper, which included vocal, violin, 'cello and piano selections.

On 16th September, 6 men spent the afternoon and evening with games and music, followed by tea, at a neighbor's house (Mr. and Mrs. Laing), the third time they have had similar parties during the summer. On 16th September, another neighbor, Mr. Bingham, had four men out for a drive in his motor car in the afternoon, followed by an hour or two spent at a Picture Show. On very many occasions during the summer evenings and on Saturday afternoons, Mr. Bingham has kindly taken parties of the men out for drives in his motor car. On 19th September, 20 of the men went to another of the favorite concerts and teas at the Savoy Hotel, by invitation of a neighbor, Mrs. Corbett, one of the committee of ladies who arrange these fortnightly concerts at their own expense, for three hundred convalescent soldiers each time. This is the fifth time she has kindly invited a party of 20 of our men.

On 22nd September, 13 men attended a display by the London Fire Brigade at their headquarters, followed by an inspection of their engineering workshops and then by a concert and tea. The invitation came through Mrs. Corbett from Mr. Percy J. Simmons, Chairman of the Fire Committee of the London Municipal Council, and this is the second time a party of our men have been so fortunate to enjoy this very instructive and interesting outing. On 23rd September, 35 men were entertained by the Local Sydenham Troop of Boy-Scouts to an