

BOUNDARY HOUSE GARDEN EN FETE.

WHICH of them did it, we suppose will never be known; but it is said that Mrs. MacPherson, in making her arrangements for her Garden Party to the staff and patients on Wednesday, July 26th, was heard to ask all three padres to offer up a prayer for fine weather. And she got it; the leaks in the skies were stopped, the sun shone out gloriously, and a cool breeze, which probably nobody thought of asking for, was thrown into the bargain. If heaven was kind, earth also was gracious. The beautiful garden of Boundary House was resplendant with roses and lilies; the lawns felt under foot as only English lawns can feel; and patient vied with patient as stretcher bearer until no end of men who could not possibly have walked down, were safely placed where they could see and hear everything. The wonderful band from St. Joseph's, upon which it is said all British bandmasters cast envious eyes, played splendidly, the youngsters evidently enjoying the party as much as any of us. Bowls, at surprisingly long range it seemed, provoked keen contests. One of the new marquees opened fire with refreshments. It was a good time all round, and our hostess looked as pleased as her guests. Anyhow, she put a smile into every camera that was pointed in her direction.

LONDON AREA SERGEANTS' MESS DINNER.

A MOST delightful evening was spent on July 15th, when the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the various Hospitals in the London area met for dinner at Pinoli's Restaurant in London for the first dinner of the London Sergeants' Mess.

The idea of forming this organization has been in the mind of the writer ever since the Commemoration Dinner organized by the Canadian Pay and Record Office last summer. Members of the various Sergeants' Messes turned out in full force, and justice was done to a most excellent dinner. Sergt. E. C. C. Tarver, of Bearwood, made an excellent toast-master, and his flowing moustache bristled "on the double."

Among the speakers of the evening were Lieut.-Colonel D. W. MacPherson, Lieut.-Colonel J. Obed Smith, Canadian Commissioner for Emigration; Lieut.-Colonel C. W. F. Gorrell (Taplow); Major Wodehouse (Bearwood); Major A. W. MacPherson (Bromley), Captain S. M. Fisher (Orpington).

Later in the evening the Mess went into executive session, and the following officers were elected:—President: Sergt. Frank Chapman, Duchess of Connaught Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Taplow; Secretary, Staff-Sergt. P. R. Jeffrey, Ontario Military Hospital; Treasurer, Sergt. Percy Jones, Ontario Military Hospital.

The Mess passed a hearty vote of thanks to the organization committee (Sergt.-Major Campbell, Staff-Sergt. Edwards and Sergt. Jones) for the work they had done in making this organization a fact. The meeting then adjourned until August 20th.

A PATIENT'S IDEA OF A MORNING IN ONE OF THE WARDS.

5 a.m.—Sister and Orderly lets up the blinds. Oh, Orderly, this blind wont work. Oh, Orderly, do come and fix this blind.

6 a.m.—Come on, boys, it's time to get up. Wake up, R—. Oh, M—, give out some water. Has that boy in the small room had a wash?—don't forget to give him a wash.

6.30 a.m.—Wake up, R—, and take the boys some water. Oh, M—, do come and help to get breakfast. M—, take out the knives and forks. J—, give out the bread. Who'll give out the tea?

7 a.m.—Down came the breakfast. J—, give out the sugar. H—, give out the milk. Did you give the boy in the small room some breakfast? Has everybody got breakfast?

7.15 a.m.—Everybody happy.

7.30 a.m.—In comes the Day Orderly. T—, come on, it's time these mugs were cleaned and put away.

8 a.m.—Everybody working hard.

9 a.m.—If the gramophone is playing we all get a rag-time dressing.

SCALLYWAG.

CORPORALS' MESS.

SINCE the July issue it has been our pleasant duty to welcome eight new members into our midst. Of these, F. Averill, W. W. Clothier, F. Dear, H. Hollands and J. M. Stewart are well-known figures in camp society. L.-Cpl. F. Moore, a first contingent man, comes to us from the noisome atmosphere of Flanders, having well earned a respite from his hazardous duties. Cpl. H. E. Popham and L.-Cpl. A. C. B. Stewart have lately arrived from the Gate of the West. The last-named were given to understand that their sojourn here would be brief. From the misty past there comes to us an echo of a similar tale that others heard. "Something to write home about, boys." "Best set of men for field-ambulance work that I have ever seen." "Second to none." But drop the curtain. The situation reminds one forcibly of the two Tommies in the trenches:—

Bill: How long are you here for, Jack?
Jack: Seven years. And you, you blighter?

Bill: Duration.

The late Corporals Morland and Thistlethwaite have our parting benediction as they soar to loftier heights. Our good wishes follow Corpl. Whiteley, who has rejoined his unit.

GLEANNINGS.

Corporal Turner, in his recent visit to Cornwall, found that the Devil was still afraid to enter the county lest he might be put in a pasty.

The Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Corpl. Gervais keeper. Blind guinea-pigs with tails a speciality. We trust Pte. Richardson did not get his goat.

Who is the blood-thirsty corporal? Ask Leach.

Corporal Reeves says he is the leader of the White Hart Bible Class. 'Nuff said.

Why did not the sporty corporal hire a taxi again instead of falling asleep as far as Tunbridge Wells?

We understand that Corporals Harper and Powell are seriously considering the advisability of taking out papers for the United States.

Overheard in the A. and D. Room:—
Corpl. Fleming (to patient): What is your trouble?

Patient: Oh, I'm dead.
Fleming: Never mind. I must have particulars.

WHAT THE QUARTERMASTER THINKS OF TOBACCO.

Tobacco is a dirty weed—
I hate it.
It satisfies no normal need—
I hate it.
It makes you thin, it makes you lean,
It takes the hair right off your bean,
It's the worst darn stuff I've ever seen—
I hate it.

RASPBERRY.

AT THE MEN'S MESS.

WE take this opportunity of welcoming our new friends from Winnipeg. Like many of us who have been at the O.M.H. for quite a time, they were eager to get over yonder, and are consequently settling down with tones of disappointment. We feel sure that they will realise very shortly—if they have not already done so—that even on the field of battle no greater opportunity could be given them for exercising their full powers. "They also serve who only stand and wait" is brought out here in its full significance. We await here the return of our brothers from across the Channel. We should deem it an honour and a privilege to be allowed to minister to their wants in a hospital which is second to none.

* * * * *

WE regret that owing to indisposition the appointed representative of the Men's Mess was unable to furnish matter for the last issue of the "Ontario Stretcher." If some have the impression that the men have no interest in "Our Paper," let them get rid of that idea at once. We one and all appreciate the Commanding Officer's kindness in allowing its publication. It will, we feel sure, do much to encourage "esprit de corps" in the unit.

* * * * *

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE PAPER.

FOREWORD:—

All questions must be attempted.

1. Who put the salt in the bacon? (The Quartermaster must not be interviewed).

2. What is it that smells like coffee and tastes like tea?

3. Describe with detail the ejaculation "I tell you for why. I tell you right now."

4. Why, when Wordsworth wrote "A violet by a mossy stone half hidden from the eye," etc., must he have been thinking of plum duff?

5. Whom had the poet in mind when he wrote the following pathetic words:—

"Above the din of mug and plate a voice was heard."

Refrain:
"He's at it again"?

6. Who got the goat?

7. Are we downhearted? (Note: The usual mono-syllabic answer is not allowed. The originality of this answer will sway the total marks).

8. What relation is there between the terms "Corporal" and "Corporation"?

9. (a) Why do the first two tables persist in their endeavour to make the others weep?
(b) Account for their failure to accomplish this.

Full Privates are allowed one day. Rear Privates two days, and if a Washing Day intervenes an extra 24 hours.

PIP.

Tel. FLORIST 1277.

Tel. FRUIT 199.

MRS. G. BUCKLAND, HIGH-CLASS FRUITERER AND FLORIST.

Wreaths, Crosses and Wedding Bouquets made to order.
SHOWER BOUQUETS A SPECIALITY.

MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY, KENT.

THE WORLD'S STORES

Carry a Large and Varied Stock of

CROSSE & BLACKWELLS, LAZENBY'S, HEINZ

SPECIALITIES,

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S, MACFARLANE, LANG'S, McVITIE & PRICE, PEEK FREAN'S BISCUITS,

CANADIAN FRUITS, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Local Branch:—HIGH STREET, ORPINGTON.