

## OFFICERS' MESS ROOM CHATTER.

Premier Hearst, accompanied by Colonel R. A. Pyne and Colonel H. A. Bruce, paid the hospital another visit two weeks ago and made a general inspection of the hospital and grounds. They seemed pleased with the conditions about our place.

Colonel Shilington and Lieut.-Colonel McCoombe, of the London Office, paid us a semi-official visit, and incidentally were filmed for the official records.

Dr. A. Hawke, of Galt, Ontario, who has been spending some time in the clinics of Mr. Moynihan, of Leeds, called to see his townswoman, N.S. Adams.

Captain P. V. Graham has been sent to No. 7 Stationary Hospital at Havre.

Captain G. L. Jepson has, we believe, been attached to No. T, C.C.D., at Monks Horton, England.

Captain Geo. D. Fripp has been sent along to No. 1, C.C.S., France.

Lieut. H. McCauley and Major E. Irvine, both of whom hail from Galt, Ontario, paid us a visit while here to see N.S. Bishop. Major Irvine, we are glad to say, has so far distinguished himself that he has been awarded the Military Cross. You cannot keep these Canadians down.

Major Donald and Captain Davis, members of the London Canadian Officers' Board, were welcome guests at our Board for a week-end.

Captain Howard Jeffs, who hails from Ontario, and came over with No. 2 Field Ambulance in the first contingent, had spent 15 months in France when a bursting shell landed a piece of shrapnel near his elbow. The shrapnel was removed in France, and he is now convalescing in London. He took time off to come down and spend Sunday with his former O.C., Lieut.-Colonel D. W. McPherson. We understand that he is getting a well-deserved though short leave to visit his home in Canada.

Captain Fred Sproule, A.S.C., an old friend and neighbour of Captain Taylor, our beloved Paymaster, was here for several days swapping experiences and stories with the members present.

Lieut. R. W. Simmie, who was wounded in France on August 15th, visited us on his way to rejoin the 3rd Battalion on the battle-front. He was accompanied by Lieut. McIvor, who has been invalided home to Canada.

Lieut. Chas. E. Gage, famous as one of Toronto's most popular footballers, and incidentally champion all-round athlete of the Shorncliffe area, spent a few days with Capt. M. M. Crawford. Lieut. Gage enlisted as a private, spent eleven months in France, and was finally recommended for a commission and transferred to the Engineers' Training School at Shorncliffe. He has now been granted leave to return to Canada for a time, and hopes to take up some of his final year work in engineering at Toronto University.

Lieut. Cliff Pierce, who crossed with the 59th Battalion and was later transferred to the 4th C.M.R.'s in France, was with us for a day. He is just recovering from illness contracted after three months in the Ypres salient.

Lieut. A. R. Wilson, of the 224th Battalion, Foresters, was at the hospital to visit his old pal and school-day chum, Private Anderson, who passed away here following a gun-shot wound of the pelvis.

No. There is absolutely no truth in the report that Captain Fox has been given charge of the ice plant on Shackleton's next Polar Expedition. His leave is merely to visit his home and family after more than two years' absence on active military service.

Lieut.-Colonel D. W. McPherson, our Officer Commanding, is at present "on

Command" at the Duchess of Connaught's Red Cross Hospital, Taplow. He left here on Saturday, Sept. 29th, for temporary duty at Taplow Hospital, and during his absence Lieut.-Colonel Graham Chambers is Acting Officer Commanding.

Lieut. Vernon Hearst, elder son of the Premier of Ontario, was wounded in the big advance on the Somme. He is now a patient in the Hyde Park Hospital, London, suffering from a severe wound of the arm. We all wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

Our genial Registrar and Acting Adjutant, Capt. Fisher, is at present a patient in a London hospital suffering from a mild form of septicaemia, following a punctured wound of the finger. We all miss his sunny smile in the Orderly Room, and we one and all look forward to the happy day when he will rejoin us as Orpington.

A few weeks ago Captains Parr and Richardson were torn from our presence to do Medical Board duty at Folkestone. Many were the tears shed, and many were the heartaches on their departure, but a kind providence has returned Captain Parr to our midst, while an unkind Medical Board have forced Captain Richardson, owing to ill-health, to take a long-needed rest of one month's duration.

Captain A. B. Greenwood during the month was sent to Westcliffe Hospital, Folkestone, suffering from Cornial ulcer. His recovery was augmented by a month's stay at the palatial Perkin's Bull Hospital. During his convalescence he has seen fit to accept an invitation to inspect the Grand Fleet in the North Sea, and was last seen on his way to Inverness to fulfil that somewhat unpleasant engagement. We will look forward to his description of the hardships entailed in making this hazardous journey. Our utter lack of knowledge of naval technicalities and nautical language may prevent a proper summary of his experiences.

Captain Edward Ryan, as reported in a former issue, left us in August on a two months' leave in Canada. We are safe in saying that every member of the Officers' Mess was pleased to hear that he was sailing from Canada on October 12th to join the unit here.

"MICHAEL MURPHY."

## CORPORALS' MESS.

Four new Corporals grace the table boards since last writing. Corpl. Beavis hails from Moore Barracks, while Corpls. Johnson, Griffiths and Mills are newly created knights with the double chevrons.

Three members of the Mess have had holiday leave recently. Corpl. Leach visited his home city of Birmingham, Corpl. Clothier went to Bath, and Corpl. Ramage went north to Scotland.

Corpl. Reeves assigns the cause of his being un-regimental to soap-suds. Can't see the connection between the two.

Since leaving Orpington, Corpl. Rimmer has joined the ranks of the benedicts. Corpl. Turner declares it is his intention to remain in Orpington if marriage is the ultimate result of departure. We doubt his assertion.

The Corporal who had a black eye last week bears a good character, notwithstanding facial appearance a short time ago.

Corpl. Griffiths champions English girls over Colonials. Another Corporal remarked "If women look bad, they are. If they look good, they may be."

Brother Johnston is out for conscription among the "unfair" sex. His correspondence grows apace and his visits abroad frequent. He is a keen hunter who likes the chase, and follows his "dear" afar.

Who is the Corporal that is suffering great pain while his London sweetheart is undergoing mental examination?

Who is the Corporal who went out of his way to secure the loan of an opera-glass when he went to see the musical production of "Chu-Chin-Chow" recently in London?

Who was the M.O. who prescribed the ointment to be rubbed "on the itchy spot"?

Is it true that when going to London recently a certain M.O. forgot to buy a ticket for his wife?

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