

Year's season, we had the pleasure of attending (as one of a party of 27 men) one of those Char-a-banc Drives, which are such delightful trips to Canadian Convalescent soldiers.

"We left the Home at 9.30 a.m., under the most favorable conditions, it being one of those typical English mild winter days. We proceeded by way of East Dulwich, and all the interesting buildings and thoroughfares, etc., were explained to us by two guides.

"On the way we passed the Elephant and Castle Hotel, the oldest hotel in the South London district, which has been in existence for several centuries. We then crossed the River Thames, and proceeded through the City or old part of London, which covers practically one square mile. This is that part of London which was ravaged by the Plague of London, later followed by the Great Fire, which stopped the rapid spread of the Plague. We passed "The Monument," a high round tower erected to the memory of the victims of that great disaster.

"The next place of interest which we visited was the Tower of London, one of the most historical spots in all England; it was for centuries the residence of the King, but in later years it was used more or less as a prison or barracks. The most interesting things to be seen here were the Traitor's Gate, being the gate through which parties entered the Tower; then came the Portcullis, which is the only one in existence to-day in working order. It was raised and lowered at the time of King George's coronation. We then saw the room in which some of the most famous prisoners were kept, the most important being Sir Walter Raleigh, who wrote the history of the world during his imprisonment there; also Sir Thomas Moore, Crammer, and many other notable prisoners were imprisoned here. One of the interesting things to see in the Tower is the Armour, Cannon, and different specimens of rifles used during different periods, almost dating from the original erection of the Tower by William the Conqueror.

"Here we also saw the original letter written by Lord Kitchener appealing to Great Britain for the first 300,000 men at the commencement of the present war, and which sold for the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, the proceeds going to the Red Cross Society.

"We then saw the magnificent Crown Jewels of Great Britain and Ireland, which are valued at approximately twelve million dollars.

"While near the Tower we had the pleasure of seeing the raising and lowering of Tower Bridge, which we were told was raised by hydraulic pressure, and that there was only half a pint of water used up in doing this feat.

"This completed our survey of the Tower, when we again entered our car and proceeded

to a Y.M.C.A. Restaurant near London Bridge, where we partook of an excellent luncheon.

"For the afternoon we were given a choice of places to visit, and part decided to go and see the King's Horses and Stables, at Buckingham Palace, and other places. Some of our boys, about a dozen in all, who did not feel equal to more walking, were taken to a picture show, and the rest of our party proceeded on the way.

"We first of all took in the beautiful pictures which are in the Royal Exchange Building, and part of the boys, by their own choice, were shown through the Mint, where all the money is coined.

"The next place of interest was Buckingham Palace. As we proceeded along the fine, broad avenue leading up to the Palace, one would imagine they were on one of our excellent thoroughfares in Canada, judging by the width. We passed Queen Alexandra's residence, and we then passed Buckingham Palace and were shown through the Stable and Coach-houses, where we saw the King's many fine horses, as well as the royal carriages and state coaches.

"We were also taken for a drive along the principal streets of the city, which were all explained to us by our kind friends, the guides. They gave quite an elaborate lecture on numerous and interesting buildings, monuments, thoroughfares, etc. The principal ones were St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, the Strand, Trafalgar Square, and many others too numerous to mention.

"About 4.30 p.m. we got our party together again and had tea at another Y.M.C.A. Hall, where we also had a fine concert. Leaving there about 6 p.m., we arrived at Kingswood at 7 p.m. I don't think there was a man in the party that didn't thoroughly enjoy himself, and the good people who provide for these entertainments would surely have thought so if they could have heard the three hearty cheers the boys gave for them, the organizers, and also the guides, who explained everything so well and in such an interesting way."

Pte. G. F. Cohill (Toronto Factory), went overseas with a Q.O.R. battalion in October, 1916, and after two weeks in England went to France. He was wounded by shrapnel in the neck and left leg last June, and expects to be back with his battalion very soon.

While Pte. Percy Rowley (Brantford Factory), of the 125th Battalion, was in Manchester recently, on leave, he was called by name when passing an internment camp. It turned out that a former Brantfordite who had at one time worked in the Massey-Harris plant there was interned. The former Brantfordite asked for a smoke.