



The Voting on December 4th, 1917,
A Group of Patients in the Grounds, and Specimens of the Election Bills.

Report of the Resident Secretary

For November and December, 1917

The months of November and December passed quietly, no change of importance occurring in the general routine of the Home.

During these months the accommodation of the Home was taxed to its whole capacity. The Canadians were engaged in very heavy fighting on the Passchendaele Ridge in the latter part of October and early part of November, and they had the honour of finally capturing the village of Passchendaele after most desperate and irresistible attacks. There has consequently been a large number of Canadian casualties, and the "active" hospitals in France and Great Britain have also been discharging both Imperial and Overseas men to the convalescent homes in this country as soon as they were at all able to be moved so as to make room for the wounded from the Imperial troops engaged in the great Cambrai battles at the end of November and beginning of December.

On account of this rush of wounded, the men have lately been sent out from the "active" or "acute" hospitals in a considerably earlier stage of convalescence than ever before.

This has been reflected in the largely increased number of dressing cases amongst our patients. In October and the two or three months preceding it, we already considered the number of dressing cases to be rather high for a convalescent home, when they stood at 55% to 60%. But in December, the proportion of men requiring dressings at least once a day had gradually risen to from 90% to 95% of the total number of patients in the Home. From 10% to 15% of these men require their dressings to be done two or three times a day, and all this extra work throws a heavy strain on our nursing staff. As the men have to be discharged from this Home before they have completed their convalescence, so as to make room for other and more urgent