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EDITORIAL

We extend a very hearty welcome to-day to the many friends of our Hospital whom we are delighted to have with us, and who have honoured us by coming, many of them from a distance, some snatching a few moments from the arduous and intensive administration work, and some, nearer home, who have contributed in no small measure to the success of our work by entertainments and otherwise, in the different departments and annexes of our Granville Canadian Special Hospital. All animated by one desire to bring back to health and strength the men who, responding to the natural instincts of the Britisher in whatsoever part of the Globe they may happen to have been born have suffered in mind or body in the cause of justice and civilisation—in upholding the honour of their King and country. We doubt whether the Director General, Surgeon General G. Carlton Jones himself foresaw to what goodly proportions and stately growth the little acorn planted in November 1915 would grow! We do not know what was in his mind with regard to the policy of his department. We may only judge results that the evolution of the Special Hospital for the segregation and treatment of special cases followed quickly upon the prevision of what such a world war would mean—and without appearing unduly self-congratulatory—Canadians may well pride themselves in the fact that they were the first to recognise the need of Dentists as a special corps—of the establishment of a special eye and ear Hospital—of the establishment of a Special Hospital for the treatment of Rheumatic affections—and lastly, of the establishment of an institution such as ours where, in a self-contained unit, such diverse conditions as shell shock, paralysis from injuries and wounds, joint affections orthopaedic surgery and nerve injuries, are treated by the most modern methods, under the best of hygienic conditions, in the best environment, mental and physical, and finally, after a course of graduated exercises leading up to physical fitness, are taken into the re-educational departments of our handicrafts section, and given congenial occupations, fitting them for the industrial work their physical disabilities have suited them for, and which these same disabilities have rendered unserviceable for further soldiering.

It were not opportune, even if space allowed, to describe in detail the work of our hospital. The knowledge that such an institution exists is of supreme comfort to the patient and a source of satisfaction to their relatives and friends. Briefly, the departments consist of a consulting board where the patient's condition is diagnosed and the appropriate treatment prescribed. This board consists of an expert physician neurologist, an orthopaedic surgeon, and an electro-therapist. The latest electrical apparatus for nerve and muscle testing is available, and where X-ray pictures are needed there is a powerful and modern X-ray apparatus both for screening and picture taking, and localizing. The various departments for actual treatment consists of large rooms for "Eau Courante" and "contrast" baths, where 24 patients can be treated at once, a large massage room with eight masseuses for joint and muscle work, mechanical vibration, etc., another massage room for 4 masseurs for special and stump massage; a Hydro-therapeutic room for shower, needle and douche baths,

another room for vapour baths, and a Turkish bath with accommodation for 8 patients.

Radiant Heat baths occupy 2 rooms, one for the radiant heat and arc light baths for the whole body, for trench nephritis and myalgia cases, shell-shock, etc., and 1 for local radiant heat able to treat 4 cases at once, and another room for electric water baths. The electrical departments consists of two rooms for galvanic faradism, schnee baths, ionization, etc., and one room for undulated sine-wave currents; one room for High frequency, auto-condensation and thermo-penetration currents; another room is devoted to the photographic department for record purposes; another department is devoted to special physical drill, gymnastics, Swedish movements and graduated exercises.

The Handicraft Section has a complete machine shop with lathes, shapers, drills, grinders, etc., with an attached blacksmith shop—an electric generating plant, a carpenter shop, a harness and saddlery shop, and a fretsaw and carving shop; a cigarette-making shop; a department for poultry raising, rabbit and guinea-pig breeding. The department of kitchen gardening and landscape gardening alone employs about eighty patients.

The entertainment of the patients is provided for by two large recreation rooms—one (Granville) accommodating 800 people, with stage, cinema machine, etc., provided by the Red Cross and Y.M.C.A.; a dry canteen and billiard tables; a splendid orchestra and minstrel troupe is organised and concerts, etc., are a nightly affair. Finally, a ten target rifle range keeps the soldiers' training up, and the route marching of those fit brings to a close a period of treatment and training which is remarkably short for the results obtained. In three months, a little over 25 per cent (421 cases) of these desperate cases have been turned out fit for active duty, and not one of whom, it is safe to say, would ever have been fit for anything but a pension board.

Canada may pardonably be proud of the care she is taking of her citizen soldiers.

R. W.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of "The Listening Post," "N.Y.D.," and the "Splint Record." and thank the respective editors for their courtesy.

We should be glad to find the "Brazier" in our post-bag occasionally.

We heartily thank the contributors who have made this Commemoration number possible, and trust they will continue to help us week by week in our endeavours to make our little paper bright and interesting.

This week-end is to be a big one. Important visitors are expected, and it is up to every man to take care that they go away with a correct impression as to what Canadian Hospitals and Canadian Soldiers are.

The Painters and decorators have been busy at the Granville, and the place is responding to the work with an air of cheering brightness. Few of us realise what a vast difference there is between the carpeted and ornamented Granville and the austere interior of an ordinary hospital. There is a home smack about it which is worth a whole lot!