

# Canadian Hospital News

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## CHRISTMAS LEAVE

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**B**Y the time this appears in print, a number of our lads will be returning from their Christmas leave. Many have spent the holiday season with relatives. Fathers and Mothers have had one or more of their sons with them for a few days. To these fortunate ones they were no doubt happy days. Many a mother shed tears of thankfulness as she gazed upon her soldier boy, it mattered not to her if he was maimed and wounded, she saw only the bright faced lad that played around her knee. The parents heart filled with pride as they listened to tales of the battlefield, the evidence of which, many a gallant lad will carry with him during the remainder of his life. To these fathers, mothers, sons and daughters, we extend greetings and express the hope that the gods of war may deal leniently with them during the New Year.

In thousands of other homes there has been no joy and gladness, that vacant chair speaks more eloquently than words, of the boy who went away a short time ago so full of life and spirits, and who is now sleeping beneath the soil of France. In these homes the Christmas season brought no joy and gladness. To the fathers, mothers and wives of the brave lads who have paid the full price, we offer our deepest sympathy in the dark hours of their affliction. Their homes are now vacant and gloomy and dark, but a brighter day is dawning in our land, when German military rule will be forever smashed and right and justice will triumph over might. It is then the fathers, mothers and wives of our fallen comrades, notwithstanding their sorrow and pain, will be able to look back with a feeling of pride and say: "They died for God, for King and Country."

THE EDITOR.