

private residence, and his generous and kindly hospitality is always very highly appreciated by our boys.

VISITORS AT KINGSWOOD

On the afternoon of 18th May, we were honored by a visit from Lady Haig, the wife of the Commander-in-Chief Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig. Lady Haig, who was accompanied by Mrs. Raynolds, visited the principal Wards and Recreation Rooms, as well as the Grounds. She displayed considerable knowledge of Military hospital affairs, was greatly interested in all she saw and heard, and was highly complimentary of the arrangements made for the care and comfort of the patients. She talked very sympathetically with several of the men, in particular with those wounded at the great fight on Vimy Ridge, and had a kindly and cheering word for all.

On 24th May, the Home was inspected by Surgeon-General Jencken, of the Imperial Army, accompanied by Colonel McLaren, Deputy Director, of the Canadian Medical Service. All the Wards, Recreation Rooms, Surgery, Bath Rooms, Kitchens, Larders and Store Cellars were closely inspected, menus examined, and careful enquiries made regarding the medical and surgical care of the patients. The visitors strongly recommended the increased accommodation for Dressings Room now arranged for, as mentioned in this month's General Report, and otherwise they were entirely satisfied. They were delighted with the fine house and extensive grounds, which they considered to be quite ideal for a convalescent home.

Among other visitors during the month were Mrs. Carr-Ellison and Mrs. D. Colin Smith, both of whom were specially interested, as they have given up their private residences in the country for use as military convalescent homes.

Mrs. Shaughnessy, daughter-in-law of Lord Shaughnessy, was another interested visitor.

We also had a visit from Miss Macdonald, a Canadian lady, who recently arrived in England in charge of the first contingent of American Army Nurses. She was accompanied by her brother Major Macdonald, who is an officer in the Canadian Army.

GIFTS FOR PATIENTS

A welcome addition to our Library was made in the form of a large and well-assorted collection of novels and other books, kindly presented for the use of our men by J. M. Hogge, Esq., the well-known Member of the Imperial Parliament, who resides in the Dulwich district, and takes a very great interest in invalided soldiers and their dependants.

Another neighbor, Mr. Reckitt, whose family has in several ways shown a very sympathetic interest in the Kingswood men, kindly sent a number of walking sticks for the use of our cripples, a most acceptable gift, and golf clubs for those who are able to take more active exercise on our golf course, although unfortunately such men are now very few.

Visit to Kingswood

There was suppressed excitement in the London office one morning; the ladies of the Staff had been invited to attend the Sports at Kingswood that afternoon, and odd moments were taken to consult one another and time tables.

We arrived at Kingswood when the races were in full swing, and we could hear, as we climbed the hill, cries of "Go it Bubbles." We were quickly on the lawn, and were heartily welcomed by Miss Hardinge, the Matron, who called boys to bring us chairs, and we settled down to enjoy ourselves. It was almost too good to last, and soon, almost against our wills, we found ourselves in a long line, ready for the Lady Visitors' Race. Long acquaintance with office stools is not conducive to fast running, and we were classed with the "Also ran." After that, all kinds of races for the boys, wheelbarrow and obstacle races causing roars of laughter. But for their blue uniforms, it seemed difficult to realise that the boys had been wounded, and at the moment were not yet fit to return to the army.

Here, amongst the lovely trees and smooth green lawns, the war seemed very far away, and for a few moments we put away anxious thoughts of our own loved ones in trenches and hospitals.

All too soon the last race was run, and we crowded around to receive our prizes, or greet other happy winners. But first of all three medals were presented for bravery in the field, and one of the boys, who was urged to make a speech, remarked that he would have had cold feet first, had he known that such a moment was in store for him. Evidently he believed in the old saw, "Deeds not Words."

Then tea on the terrace! It is not every day that one is waited upon by such happy warriors, but I am sure that the boys could be no happier than were we. Later, they were proud to show us around, and each was sure his was the finest room in the house.

We left Kingswood with their, "Sure, it has been a grand day," ringing in our ears, and we are hoping that we shall soon have another opportunity of visiting them.