



The Canadian
Convalescent
Hospital,
Bear Wood,
Wokingham.

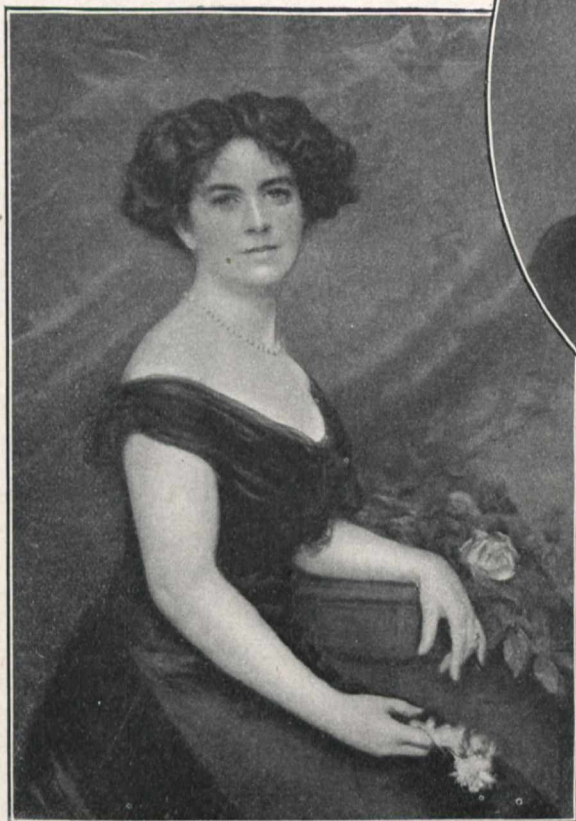
The CANADIAN
CONVALESCENT
HOSPITAL



BEAR WOOD
WOKINGHAM
BERKSHIRE

1915-18.

The Canadian Convalescent
Hospital, Bear Wood,
Wokingham, Berkshire.



Mr. and Mrs.
JOHN WALTER.



THE MANSION.



LT.-COL. ROBT. E. WODEHOUSE, O.C.

Canadian Convalescent Hospital, Bear Wood.



AMONG the many hospitals in England devoted to the care and restoration of convalescent soldiers none can be more admirably suitable than that which bears the name of the Canadian Convalescent Hospital, Bear Wood, Wokingham, Berkshire.

The Origin.

It was in the month of August, 1915, the close of the first year of War, that, the need being urgent for recuperative centres for Convalescent Soldiers, this delectable spot became the temporary home of the Canadians. A letter had been received on August 8, 1915, by Sir R. L. Borden from Major A. Laphorn Smith, R.A.M.C., a well-known surgeon of Montreal, stating that in conversation one day with Sir Thomas Galway, Surgeon-General, R.A.M.C., the question had arisen regarding the need on the part of the Canadians of a place that would serve as a Soldiers' Convalescent Home. Sir Thomas had informed him that Mr. Walter, of *The Times*, would be proud to lend his magnificent home called "Bear Wood Park," free of any charge, for such a worthy undertaking. Accordingly, Major Laphorn Smith was requested to obtain the authority of Mr. Walter to inspect the place, the result being that a permit was secured for this purpose. Major Smith kindly offered to accompany the Canadian representative, Major Doherty, on a tour of inspection of the building and grounds. The report which the latter sent to the D.M.S., Canadians, was as follows:—

"Bear Wood Park Mansion is a very large brick house, and would accommodate 300 patients without any crowding; recently 700 troops were quartered in this building. It is supplied with water by two tanks, one of 6,000, the other of 5,000 gallons capacity, the latter being fed by a reservoir of much larger capacity. The outbuildings are very fine, and in these 100 men could easily be accommodated."

The D.M.S. immediately secured the authority of Major-General The Hon. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, to accept the generous offer of Mr. Walter, and submitted a requisition for the necessary furniture and the equipment for 625 beds.

On August 27 a Board of Officers visited Bear Wood Park, to ascertain the feasibility of erecting huts near the house, and after consultation with Mrs. Walter, senior, Capt. McCombe, C.A.M.C., and H. S. Fellowes, Lieut., C.E., reported to the D.M.S. that Mrs. Walter was anxious that the ballroom and large room adjoining, together with bedroom immediately above, should be retained for storage of furniture under lock and key.

It was ascertained through Mr. Walter's agent that Mr. Walter was willing to loan his place gratis to the Canadians, the only stipulation being that the taxes and insurance be paid by them, and that, when they vacated it, it should be left in unimpaired condition.

Historical.

At this point, it would not seem amiss to give a short descriptive history of the place itself, and for this portion of our sketch we are indebted to the Rev. Peter H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A., Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

"The Mansion of Bear Wood, the seat of the Walter Family, who are known to the world as the proprietors of *The Times* newspaper, is situated in a part of the old forest of Windsor. This forest covers a large tract of ground and was the favourite hunting ground of the Kings of England from Norman times. When James the



Bear Wood Deputy Controller and Q.M.A.A.C. personnel being inspected by Queen Mary at Aldershot, June, 1918.

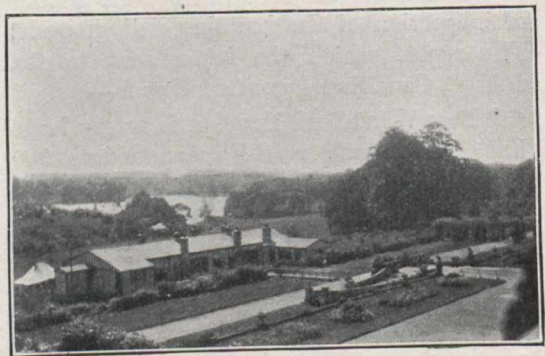
Sixth of Scotland became King James the First of England, he had these forests surveyed, and Norden's maps, prepared then at the King's Commission, show Bearewood Walke as extending from the Loddon River East, which is under the jurisdiction of Sir Francis Knowles and in which Fallow deer roamed in large numbers. Bear Wood Park, although there are many theories and anecdotes connected with the name, probably derives its spelling from the old name of the County of Berkshire in which it is situated. The ancient form of this County Title was Berroc Scyre, and in maps of no distant date Berroc Wood is shown around Wokingham, extending to the Loddon River. Captain Cooper King in his history of Berkshire says the name lives as modern Bear Wood. On maps prepared by Norden at the command of King James the First, the name is spelled Bearewood Walke.

This district has a great history extending over hundreds of years and dating back to Saxon times. The scenery of the district is wonderfully beautiful, with magnificent woodlands, long stretches of heather and bracken, giant oak and beech trees, firs and pine woods. The grounds known as Bear Wood Park and now devoted to the recuperation of Canadian soldiers were purchased in 1830 by Mr. John Walter, the second of that name, who built the first

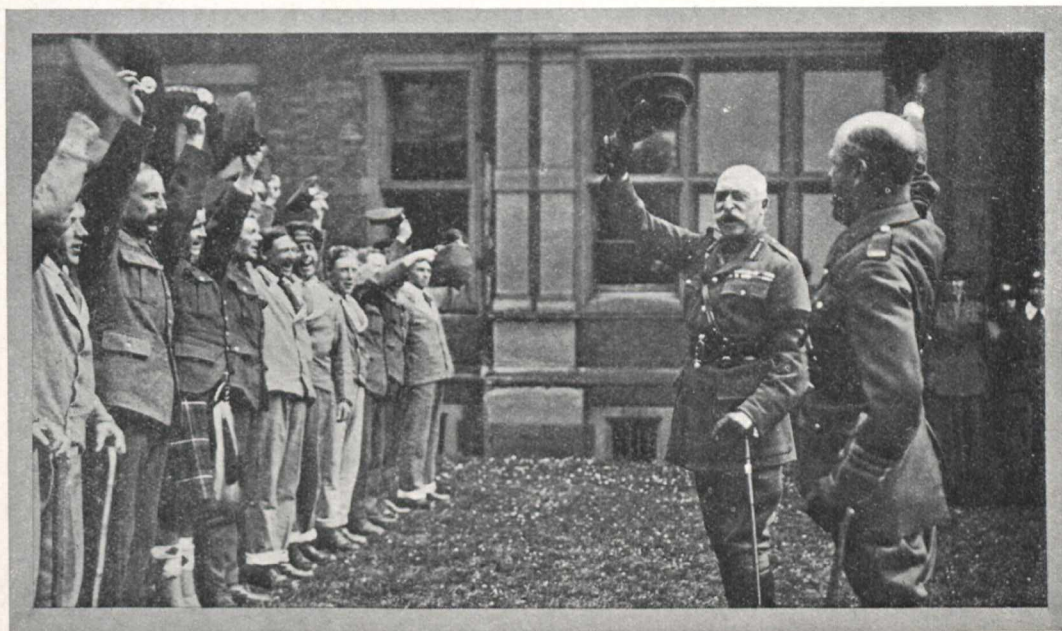
house owned by that distinguished family, also the adjoining church at Bear Wood. He and his family lived there until 1865, when John Walter, the third of that name, erected the present mansion. It is a very large and imposing building, designed in the Elizabethan style. The principal interior feature is the large picture gallery and around this great central hall, the rest of the mansion was constructed.

The Mansion.

The Drive leading from the Main Lodge to the Hospital winds between two small covers of woodland and suddenly opens upon the vista of two stately rows of beautiful Wellingtonians, which impress one as a guard of



Looking South to Lake.



The Duke of Connaught calls for "Three Cheers for the King."

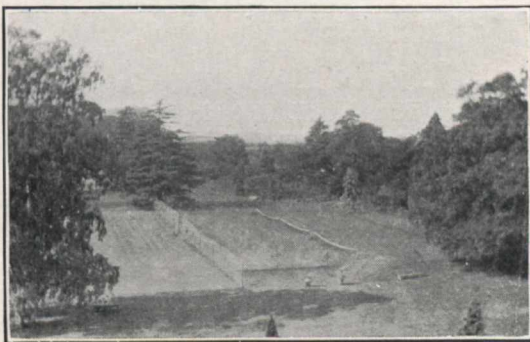
honour standing at attention, lining the straight way which leads to the massive structure, the Mansion.

The approach to the entrance court is quite an imposing one and leads through fine iron gates, which are confronted by the dominating portion of the building, which is the tower, upon which in pre-war times the flag was always flying when the Walter family were at home. For two years it has been flying to welcome wounded soldiers.

The house itself is well adapted for the purposes of a Convalescent Hospital; the rooms on every side are well lighted and afford a splendid outlook to the occupants. Especially is this true of the south side of the house, which overlooks a finely wooded park, in the centre of which is a beautiful lake, which provides boating and fishing. On the west side of the Mansion are spacious lawn tennis courts, bowling greens and delightful rock gardens. To the east are croquet lawns and rose gardens.

Hospital Addition.

A Convalescent Home must be recreative, and to be recreative it must be furnished



West Terrace.

with up-to-date facilities for recreation. In this respect, Bear Wood Park Hospital is adequately provided for, thanks to the Y.M.C.A. and the Canadian Red Cross Society. A very fine building was erected by the latter under the supervision of Col. C. A. Hodgetts, with seating capacity of over 400. It has a large stage with ample scenery, also two dressing rooms; behind the stage a moving picture machine room is located, and in it a cinema machine complete—the gift of the wife of Sir George Watson-Sutthemstead. At the rear of the auditorium is a billiard room fully equipped. This building is in constant use five evenings of each week. It is filled to capacity, for the



Canadian Red Cross Society Recreation Hut.

men know that whether the programme calls for a concert or a moving picture show, it will be well worth while attending. This is due to the offices of the Y.M.C.A. (which, by the way, is under Imperial management). Since the very first day on which patients began to arrive at the Hospital, concert parties of the highest order have been a twice weekly feature, and one night a week a lantern lecture, covering a wide range of subjects and places, has been a popular medium of information and entertainment. In this building, Swedish remedial exercises are carried on each morning of the week, while on Sunday morning it is used for Church Parade service.

To the north of the Mansion, close by the Huts—which were erected to accommodate extra patients—a Y.M.C.A. Hut was erected and is under the management of Mr. Starkey, and here the men are able to purchase refreshments, play billiards, write and read at leisure, and receive the help of sympathetic and wise counsel. This building is a popular rendezvous seven days of the week, and its services are a valuable asset to the Hospital. Its erection was made possible owing to the generous response of the people of the neighbouring city of Reading, supplemented from the funds of the British Y.M.C.A. headquarters at London.

The Chronicle of the Hospital.

On September 20, 1915, the Hospital was opened, and for two years it has devoted itself unsparingly to the securing in every possible way the welfare and happiness of the 20,000 men who have come under its care. Associated with the Officer Commanding at the commencement were Hon. Capt. I. D. Carson, who acted as Quartermaster, and Capt. Gillespie, of Pincher Creek, Alberta, of Queen's University Hockey Intercollegiate fame, who acted as Registrar and Adjutant,

and Capt. Logan Towers, of Berlin (better known as Kitchener), Ontario, who was the genial Medical Officer. Thirty-two husky "other ranks" completed the *personnel*. Thanks to the generous assistance of the Transport belonging to No. 4. British Remount Depôt, kindly loaned by our excellent military neighbour, Major Foster, 300 beds and equipment were taken on charge from the railway and were soon in position. These were easily accommodated in the

Mansion, where living quarters for the Officers, Administrative Rooms and catering facilities were also arranged for.

The first patients, numbering 48, arrived on October 26, and in six months' time the number had increased to 400. By the 3rd of May, 1916, tents (70 in all) were pitched to accommodate 300, bringing the total capacity of the Hospital up to 700.

In July, 1916, twelve Huts were erected to replace the Tents, and in these 348 beds were placed, while dining rooms and kitchens were enlarged to accommodate 800.

The medical services of the Hospital have always been maintained at a high standard, and the Institution has been most fortunate at all times in having Medical Officers with very considerable scientific as well as practical experience, thus affording expert modern opinion along with conservative sympathetic action. It has always been the aim and desire of the staff to do everything possible to restore the Canadian casualties by medical care, comfortable housing, ample and satisfying diet, and contentment of mind, until the time should come either to return to duty or, if unfit for duty, to return to their friends in that Canada which they all love so well.

Patients, apart from medical treatment, have been encouraged to take ample exercise—the village of Wokingham, 2½ miles distant, being always in bounds to them. Much interest has been aroused by the

frequent meetings of the Garth Fox Hounds and Beagle Hounds, in and around the Estate, every facility being granted for patients to attend and follow the hunt, the Officers encouraging them by themselves participating.

Accommodation has been arranged on the ground floor of the Hospital for several beds for patients more or less below par who were benefited by full or part time confinement to bed. In February, 1916, Nursing Sisters of the C.A.M.C., four in number, were attached for duty, and wonderfully added to the efficiency of the Institution, and, through their sympathy and personal interest, added very considerably also to the happiness of the patients.

Physical instructors were detailed for the purpose of giving exercise, under the direction of Medical Officers, to suitable cases, with varying degrees of severity; and soon workshops were opened for carpenters' work, upholstering, and cobbling. Many nervous states have improved wonderfully under these different forms of manual and mental occupation.

Discipline has been found here, as elsewhere, to be a most necessary and important adjunct to treatment and satisfactory progress. "Once a soldier, always a soldier," is a very true maxim. It is a certainty that kindness, which assumes to carry with it conventionality of a civilian nature, tends



Y.M.C.A. Canteen Hut.



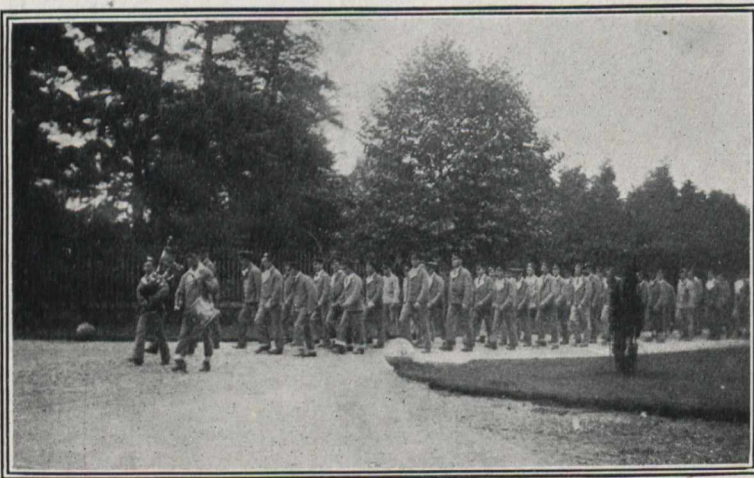
Original Staff.

to diminish military *esprit de corps* and always culminates in mental unhappiness for the patient. Due military respect observed towards the Hospital patient and insisted upon in return from him creates and maintains an atmosphere of cordiality and contentment. Nine o'clock bedside inspection of quarters each morning, 9.30 parade and physical drill or other treatment, with short march at 10.45, and similar time occupied in the afternoon give the patient physically fit for these exercises some employment. He has a place to be in at a certain time, he has a duty to perform. He does not anticipate fatigue or occupation for an endless period. He is prompt, enters into the effort with spirit,

and then follows the same with a period of mental and physical relaxation, much benefited by the fact that he has actually made an effort.

A Dental Clinic was instituted in June, 1916, and did excellent service, discovering and repairing dental defects while the patients are completing their recovery from wounds or other ailments.

The first Canadian treatment of nervously disorganized hearts upon the plan initiated by the Imperial authorities at Hampstead Hospital was commenced at this Hospital about December, 1916. Soon patients numbering up to 300 were collected and placed under close clinical observation as to their reaction to definitely modified degrees and types of physical exercises taken under the supervision of specially qualified instructors. They were immediately classified into different grades according to the index of resistance or toleration they exhibited by decreased or accumulated objective and subjective symptoms. They were observed to obtain a higher index gradually, and usually each week passed into a slightly higher class of exercises, and



Return from Route March.



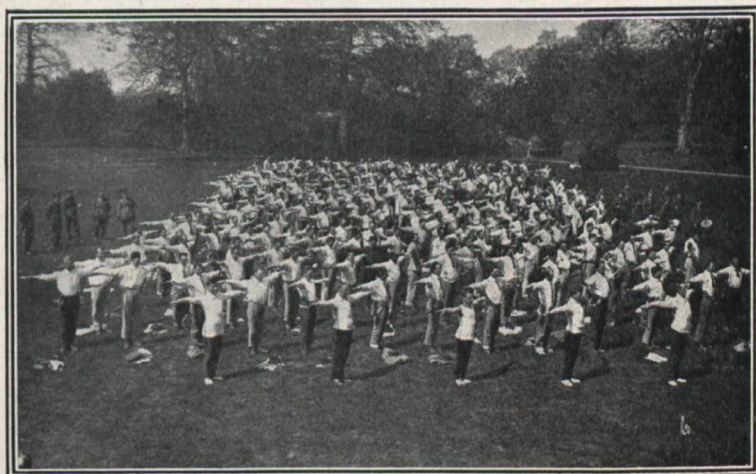
First Patients.

finally at the end of six weeks' progress could be safely classified in the categories in which they would remain, or at least improve in physical fitness.

Very soon it was decided to endeavour by similar means of clinical observation to try out graduated exercises of physical effort as well as modified diet to obtain an index of toleration for cases of albuminuria and nephritis and thus be able in six weeks to two months to form a more exact opinion or diagnosis as to such cases and the best disposal of the same from the patient's point of view as well as a military or hospitalization one. This interesting type of treatment, for administrative reasons, was transferred to the King's Canadian Red Cross Convalescent Hospital, Bushey Park, and two valuable members of the Staff accompanied them, namely, Major Murray, Dalhousie University, Halifax, and Captain Davis, original Bear Wood understudy of Major Meakins, one of the first four heads of service at Hampstead Heart Hospital, who introduced the Clinic at Bear Wood Hospital, while Capt. Hewet, an enthusiast in medicine from Saskatchewan, the

third member of the Heart Clinic, remained here.

About this time, three rooms were equipped with electro-therapeutic instruments, purchased and installed by Mr. Maddox and operated by him free of remuneration of any kind. The rooms are very well equipped with the latest and most efficient types of apparatus. The modalities employed in treatment are Faradism, Galvanism, and Sinusoidal current direct and rhythmic. Ionic medication, radiant heat, and vibration are also administered, and now high frequency treatment is available as well. Two C.A.M.C. assistants specially trained at the Granville Canadian Special Hospital, Ramsgate, are constantly required. Forty



Physical Instruction.



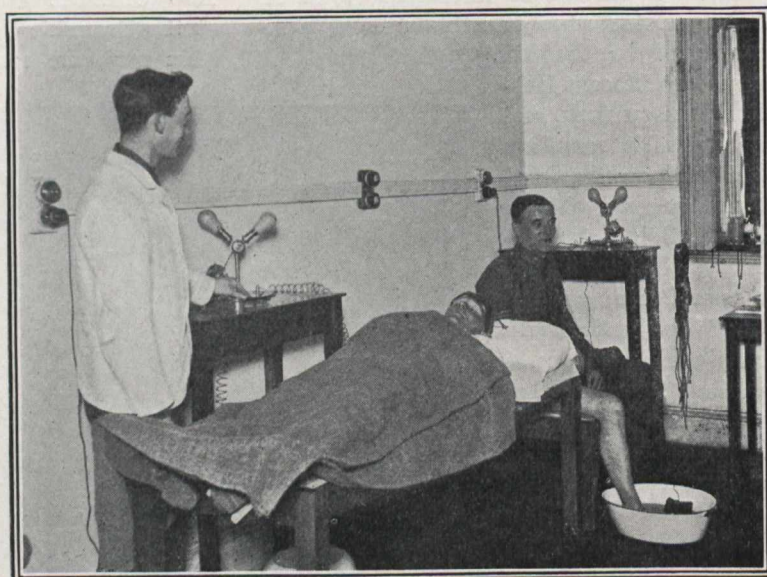
Sick Ward No. 1.

to fifty patients of a suitable type are treated daily.

This Clinic, in conjunction with the seven full-time masseurs and the Remedial Gymnasium Staff, with its meagre but useful equipment, have, under the supervision of Capt. Lionel Hudson, graduate of the McGill University, given most excellent results. In June, 1918, Capt. J. McDonald, Toronto University, was detailed here by the D.M.S. Office, after special training, to have charge of all remedial work, and a gymnasium building 40 feet by 60 feet was set aside for the work.

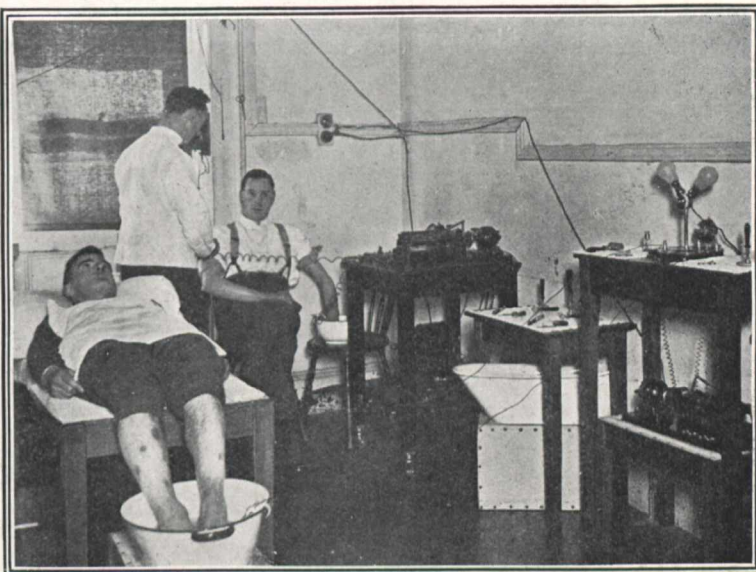
This same Medical Officer does the muscle testing and reports upon the findings of different nerve cases referred to him by the medical services and further conducts the laboratory now established as a grade D plant. The examination of sputum, urine, and smears of urethral, oral, and nasal origin are made and diagnoses confirmed and treatment instituted with more exactitude and promptness than would otherwise be the case.

Statistics are usually conceded to be very dry, but must be admitted as essential, although carelessly charged by some as being misleading. It is thought here that statistics are only misleading when they are construed, either wilfully or otherwise, into conveying a meaning never once entertained by the compiler. In this case they are presented more to convey an honest report of actual work conducted, principally from an administrative point of view. The periods are divided into half yearly, except the first two months following the opening of the Hospital. (See pages 12 and 13.)



Ionisation.

The first Registrar's Office was opened in the room which is now the Sick Ward number 2, on the ground floor, and which was used as a library before the hospital was opened. In fact, all administrative offices were centred here, with that of the Officer Commanding next door, with tiled floors and entrances on to the terrace. Capt. Gillespie, Pincher's Creek, Alberta, was first Registrar and Adjutant. The Registrar and Adjutant's Offices were moved to the tradesmen's entrance north-east wing. Capt. Gillespie's term of office was short owing to illness, and Capt. Towers, Sarnia, Ontario, took over the duty, soon to be relieved by Capt. Corbett. The office was divided into that of Registrar and Adjutant, Capt. Bennet, Vancouver, B.C., taking charge of the Adjutant's branch and really organizing the files and records from the inception of the Hospital to this date. He was very efficient and arrived at Bear Wood at an opportune time. Capt. Corbett was soon taken off the strength to proceed to Canada

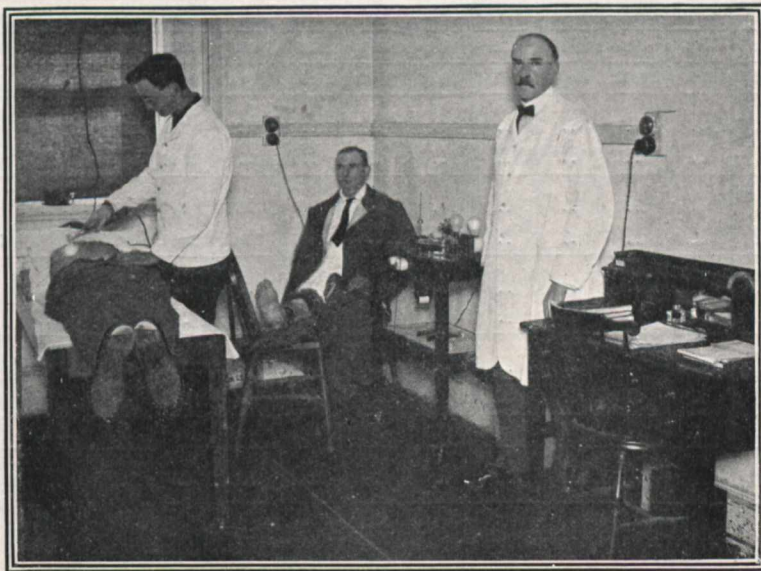


Galvanism and Faradism.

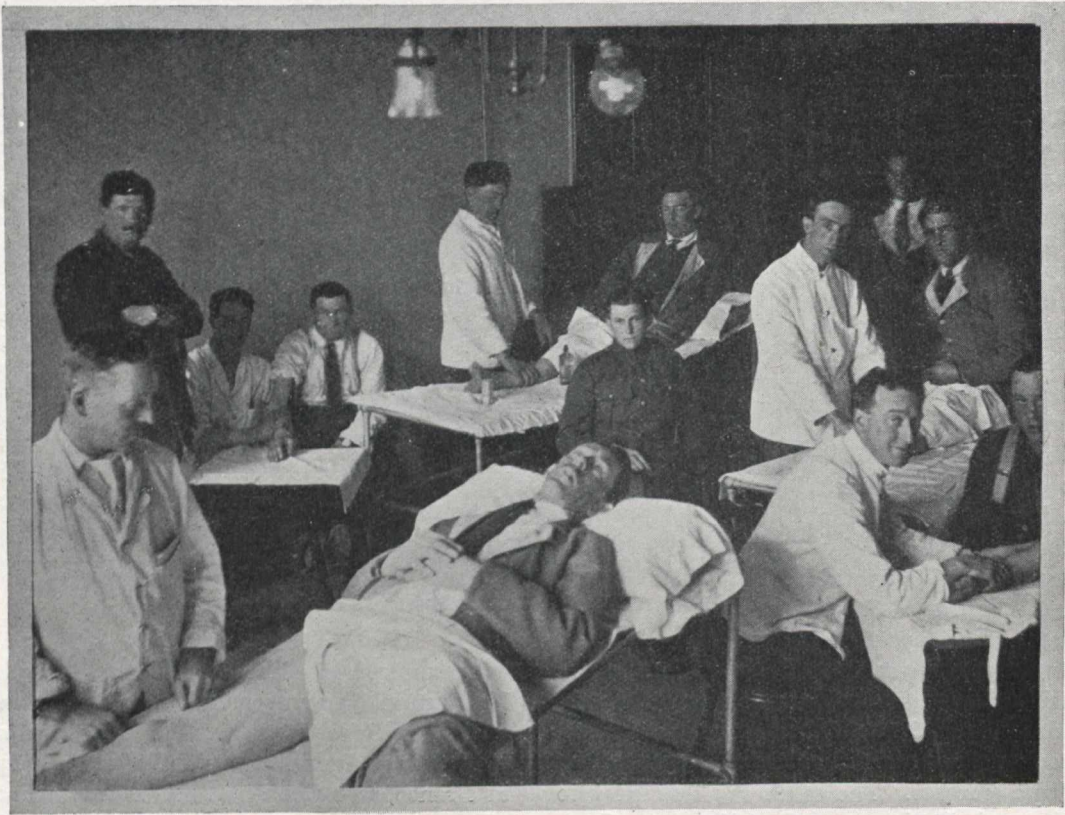
to command a field ambulance. Capt. McDiarmid, Vancouver, B.C., took over the duties of Registrar, which he held up to 1918. Capt. Bennet was withdrawn for duty in France, and Capt. Stevens, a combatant officer, took over the Adjutant duties and those of company officer. He was soon taken off the strength owing to illness, and Capt. Graham Wilson, Winnipeg, Man., took over the duties and conducted them in an efficient manner. He was soon ordered to France, and the two offices were united for administration under one officer, Capt. McDiarmid.

When Capt. McDiarmid was attached in the spring of 1918 to the A.D.M.S. Office, London area, for duty, a young officer, Capt. James Sutherland, of Winnipeg, Man., took on the duties and was soon followed by Capt. Nathaniel McDonald, a South African veteran who had seen two years' service with the R.A.M.C. in France.

The Quartermaster's services had been administered at the opening of this Hospital for six weeks by Hon. Capt. I. D. Carson, C.A.M.C., Vancouver, B.C., in an



Mr. Maddox in High Frequency Room.



Massage Department.

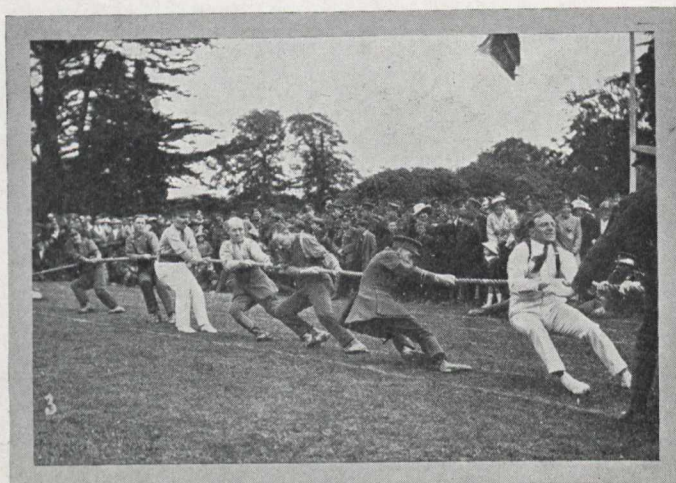
	Oct.	Nov.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Daily average strength ..	64.5	116	142	181	286.7	320.36	240	413	655	655	584	669	673	676
Weekly average discharges in relation to daily average strength ..	28%	21%	21%]	28%	14%	14%	35%	22%	28%	21%	21%	21%	17%	17%
Total per Cap. days ..	1,935	3,603	4,405	5,255	8,888	9,611	7,436	12,404	20,328	20,610	17,501	20,750	20,198	20,985
Monthly discharge ...	109	148	175	244	169	290	371	406	877	674	614	633	466	518
Average stay in hospital ..	8.83	11.12	18.63	27.53	30.37	31.85	32.32	23.33	20.09	28.07	46.70	35.68	28.35	38.17
Number of patients requiring dressing ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	169	369	330	266
Total treatments ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,107	3,937	3,195	2,938
Number of cases requiring massage ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108	177	202	154	204	166
Number of treatments..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	564	1,524	2,011	1,913	1,571	1,841
Number of cases requiring electro-therapy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of treatments..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of patients requiring dentistry ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	283	36	175	117
Number of treatments ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	452	83	262	186
Number boarded Canada ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada Boards awaiting transport ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of nervous disorganized heart cases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	109	153



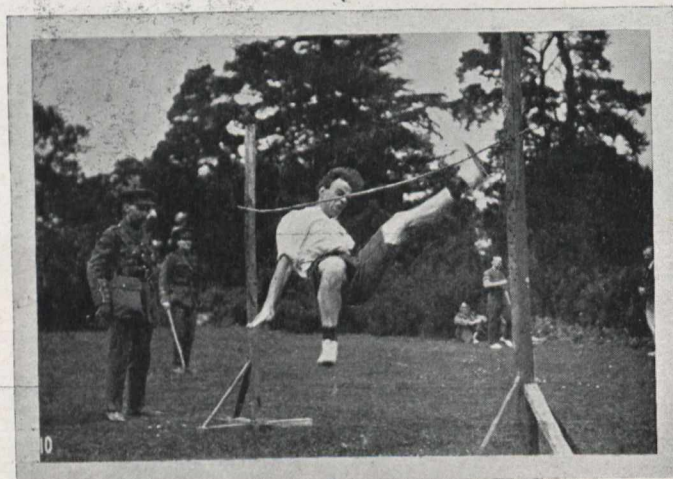
Mansion Dressing Room.

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
669	666	645	595	621	610	354	344	571	613	370	646.5	660	623	574	633	621	562
15.9%	13%	18%	17%	20.3%	35.65%	26.64%	25.28%	27.99%	13.56%	11.18%	17.78%	21.29%	17.97%	20.89%	21.01%	19.01%	27.04%
20,769	18,653	20,004	17,844	12,973	18,300	10,995	10,680	17,138	19,038	13,050	20,523	20,728	17,468	17,805	19,019	19,267	16,867
395	338	460	435	672	870	535	348	254	431	654	440	759	477	481	533	476	609
47.72	58.85	69.14	65.50	45.85	44.72	33.56	54.50	40.27	37.06	40.42	25.42	28.80	24.21	30.23	37.28	35.32	36.25
234	195	123	197	459	371	211	145	185	312	307	295	150	178	148	155	170	160
2,300	2,484	1,860	1,800	3,805	3,291	1,872	947	1,748	5,329	4,815	3,726	2,980	2,646	2,671	2,304	2,634	2,521
169	144	117	105	185	155	121	115	212	251	232	196	232	225	213	182	134	137
1,457	1,466	1,257	712	2,065	1,791	868	1,438	3,570	3,663	1,244	1,767	1,813	1,687	1,837	1,567	913	1,012
..	..	..	..	..	38	56	81	103	103	96	78	181	147	170	100	164	162
..	..	..	..	..	113	295	481	793	773	524	603	739	1,007	1,113	957	2,158	1,702
112	147	139	150	165	138	158	120	230	226	254	162	216	176	107	208	217	229
231	212	202	267	246	242	349	227	566	437	510	349	544	362	213	253	288	276
Nil	183	18	32	27	33	16	8	15	123	38	29	46	60	70	32	84	60
63	215	94	51	74	47	25	33	9	55	3	34	21	19	52	7	12	18
292	360	420	333	Total patients admitted, including June 30 15,713													
				Total per capita day 485,021													
				Average stay, all patients.. .. . 31.5 days													

efficient manner, followed by a period without a commissioned officer, Quarter-Master-Sergeant J. D. P. Scholfield, Toronto, carrying on in a creditable way. The next commissioned officer was Hon. Capt. Smith, Montreal, who remained for about two months, when he was boarded to Canada, as medically unfit, and Hon. Lieut. A. Paull succeeded him until he also returned to Canada. He was an ex-British Army man of several campaigns, as also was his successor, Hon. Lieut.



Critical Stage in Officers versus Sergeants Event.

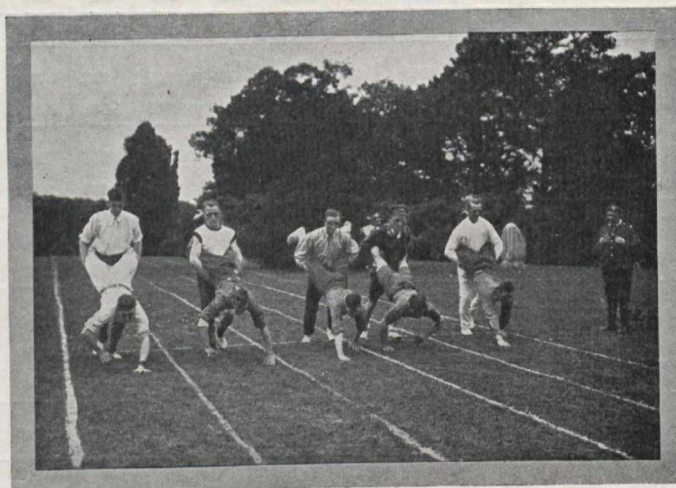


By courtesy of "Canada." A Regrettable Mishap.

J. G. Haylett, now Hon. Captain. This latter officer was the original 1st Division Sergeant-Major of the 10th Battalion and hails from Moncton, N.B., and is an efficient, energetic officer.

The medical services are less interesting in a convalescent hospital from an acute ailment point of view than they are in an active treatment hospital, but they afford excellent material for the study of remedies for chronic ailments and disabili-

ties resulting after termination of active treatment. From one point of view, that is, from the estimation of the commercial factor as to percentage of actual and final disability or the amount of pension probably due, the study is ever interesting. So also is the effect of Swedish remedial exercise, massage and electro-therapy, along with occupational employment, though the latter has been very little used since heart and nervous cases were taken away.



Wheel-barrow Race.



Canadian Winter at Bear Wood.



Tropical Summer in Rock Garden.

The Staff.

The staff, owing to the limited number—four officers to seven hundred beds, with regimental duties extra—have very hard work at times. They no doubt feel they are machines rather than specially trained students for research, diagnosis and treatment. They are, however, always cheerful

very popular medical officer here. Capt. Watters, a French Canadian M.O., and Capt. Hudson, a practitioner of 20 years' service in Michigan, who came overseas as a private, were both here for very short periods. Capt. Craig, from Saskatchewan Hospital, brightened the mess by a few weeks' attach-



Major-General Foster, C.B., C.A.M.C., and Brigadier-General Ross, C.B., C.M.G., C.A.M.C., honour Bear Wood.

and willing. Every medical teaching centre in Canada has been represented, and some of the Old Country and United States as well. Capt. Eaton, Capt. Brothers, and Capt. Goodchild all arrived here in the early days and all hailed from Winnipeg or near there. Capt. Moore arrived here soon after from near Toronto, followed by Major McDonald, from the Straits of Canso, Nova Scotia, and Capt. A. E. L. Thompson, from Queens, Kingston. Capt. Hay, from Warton, Ontario, and Capt. Briggs, from Victoria, B.C., were next to arrive. Capt. J. T. Lewis, from Hillsboro, N.B., was a

ment here. Capt. Cowan, a young but promising practitioner from Galt, Ontario, was next medical officer to be attached to Bear Wood Medical Services. Capt. Rykert, M. P. P., Wentworth, Ontario, Capt. Palling, Registrar, Barrie, Ontario, and Capt. Dudley, ex-Mayor, Webbwood, Ontario, arrived fresh from Canada. Capt. Robertson, a recent graduate from Queen's University, arrived soon, to be followed by Capt. Ferris, a surgeon of Edmonton, Alberta. The two latest arrivals were Capt. J. R. Matheson, of Prince Edward Island, and Capt. C. L. B. Stammers, of Smith Falls, Ontario.



Officer Commanding and Sergeants, 1918.



Staff, 1918.

The Nursing Sisters.

Nursing Sisters were attached to this Hospital for duty in February, 1916, and proved a most important adjunct to the welfare and happy progress to normal health of the patients cared for here.

Matron Smith, R.R.C., Nursing Sisters Mattice, R.R.C., Stronach, R.R.C., and Nichol were the first to report for duty, Mrs. John Walter making personal inquiry and provision of furnishings to assure their bodily comfort in quarters. Matron Smith, R.R.C., was soon withdrawn to take charge of the Ontario Government Military Hospital, Orpington, Nursing Staff. Nursing Sister Mattice, R.R.C., became acting sister in charge and was soon followed by Nursing Sister Stronach, R.R.C., who was succeeded by Nursing Sister Wylie, R.R.C., This nursing sister was succeeded as acting sister in charge by Sister Fletcher, who in turn was followed by Nursing Sister Robertson, whose service was temporarily interrupted by a short term of charge-ship by Matron Cameron Smith. Nursing Sister Wilson, of London, Ontario, is acting sister in charge at the time of writing.

The stay at Bear Wood of the Nursing Sisters has, on the average, been short.

Many were posted simply to await transport duty to Canada.

Passing from the sisters in charge to the members of the nursing staff, it is interesting to note the number who actually have been domiciled here or posted for duty. Nursing Sisters Hamilton and Ruddick, R.R.C., come first, closely followed by Nursing Sisters McKinnon and Pense, R.R.C., and then in close succession Nursing Sisters Ree, Pelford, Everard, McLaren, Galbraith, R.R.C., McCue, McPhee, Edgecombe, Nicholson, Ellis, Brennan, Hutson, Fellows (who, by the way, was married while here), Wood, Dunn, Robley, Leamy, Hurst, Greenwood, Morriss, Milard, McNeil, Green, Bennet, Debellesfeuille, R.R.C., Mulholl, Brown, (also married while here), Gerrard, Home Sister Scatchard, Nursing Sisters Purcotte, Graves, and Gilchrist (who married Capt. Nathaniel McDonald while here.)

The Nursing Sisters at Bear Wood since January, 1918, are Nursing Sisters L. L. Gillis, M. J. Leitch, V. M. Donovan, R.R.C., L.D. Percy, L. M. McCleave, E. L. Craig, E. B. Etherington, E. Regan, S. Johnston, E. A. Anderson I. Wilson, G. M. Carvolth, E. E. Little, E. A. Thompson, F. M. Hocken, E. A. G. Bishop.



Rufus with Repatriated Canadians from Germany.

The Chaplain and Attached Services.

The officers serving at the Hospital who have not so far been noted are attached and belong to Corps other than C.A.M.C. The Chaplain services were not represented at first owing to the courtesy of the Rev. Mr. Nott, who voluntarily administered to our spiritual wants so long as he remained Rector of St. Catherine's Church, which is the parish attached to Bear Wood Mansion. The Officers' Mess has a living token of its happy association with this Rector in the presence of "Rufus," the Dane dog of excellent breed, who has been well known to all patients and others associated with Bear Wood. Following the departure of the Rev. Mr. Nott from St. Catherine's the Canadian Chaplain Services attached a Church of England Chaplain, who up to the time of writing has continued to administer to the adherents of St. Catherine's for more than two years. The first of these was Capt. Ambrose, a Nova Scotian, broad-minded and jocular, entertaining and very popular with the men. Hon. Capt. Allison, secretary to the Bishop of Kewatin, Canada, came from Dryden, Ontario. Hon. Capt. Collins, an exuberant youth from the Foothills of Alberta, and Hon. Capt. McNamara, from

Collingwood, Ontario. Hon. Capt. Shatford, now Hon. Major, Chaplain to the Canadian Army Corps, Headquarters, France, next appeared on the map. He was here for some considerable time, being a partial invalid and requiring light duty. Major Bayley, an English born and educated clergyman, succeeded. Among his other services he has been an enthusiastic leader in athletic sports, especially Association football. He had not been here long when owing to the lapse of time, twelve months, it was necessary for the Bishop of Oxford to see that the parish of St. Catherine's had an incumbent, or, the parish further defaulting, to see that the vacancy be filled. It was mutually agreed that Major Bayley be read in as Rector, and this accomplished he has now for eighteen months enjoyed the unique position of being a busy rural rector in the parish of Winnerish, besides undertaking his regimental duties of Senior Chaplain to the Canadian Convalescent Hospital, Bear Wood, Wokingham, England.

About the time this dual array of duties developed it was deemed advisable that the other Protestants, numbering at least 50 per cent. of the patients, be administered to



Art Gallery, now Mansion Dining Room.

and their religions wants cared for by the Chaplains of other faiths than the Church of England. Hon. Capt. Muncaster, a Congregationalist from Calgary, was the first additional officer attached for this purpose. Hon. Capt. Marshall, a buoyant, outspoken graduate of Knox, Toronto, Canada, followed Hon. Capt. Munroe, of Massey, Ontario, with a broad Scottish accent, which Canada had not succeeded in freeing him of, was the next

Capt. Victor Lemieux was the first officer to be attached and he was succeeded by Hon. Capt. Sherman, who was followed by Hon. Lieut. Hale, who, becoming a casualty, was succeeded by Hon. Capt. Fraser, who, when transferred to Bexhill, was followed by Capt. Hatheway.

The Adjutant-General, Canadian Overseas Military Forces, has been represented here since the disestablishment of the Cana-



“Cowie,” the Butler.

to take up the work. Hon. Capt. Paulin, of Hamilton, who had lost the use of one arm at Vimy Ridge, was the next to administer and with marked success. He was returned to Canada. Hon. Capt. Faulds, Arnprior, Ontario, has been with us up to the time of writing. He is an excellent broad-minded cleric and a very useful officer.

The Canadian Army Pay Corps had not been represented from the inception of Bear Wood, Medical Officers having conducted the duties during its early days. Hon.

dian Casualty Assembly Centre. His first officer was Capt. Caldron, of Edmonton, who afterwards was nominated for election by the Overseas voters as an M.P.P. for Alberta Legislature. Major Newman, of Brantford, Ontario, succeeded him. He returned to Canada. Lieut. Donnan, M.C., succeeded Major Newman as Hospital representative, and has proven an acquisition to the unit both departmentally and socially.

The Dental Surgeons who have been attached here have all been graduates of the

Ontario Royal College of Dentistry, University of Toronto. Capt. Lough hailed from Winnipeg, Capt. Munroe from Saskatoon,

and Capt. Atkey, at the time of writing officer in charge Dental Clinic at Bear Wood, from Toronto.

Athletics.

Athletics have always been fostered to the utmost. Allocation in such delightful country surroundings could not but lend itself to such healthful undertakings. The first season we endeavoured to play Association football, but were nearly always out-classed by the local teams in the vicinity. When the second season came along, thanks to the enthusiastic support of Hon. Major and Chaplain Bayley, we were able to make a change. Thirty games were



Football Team, 1916-17



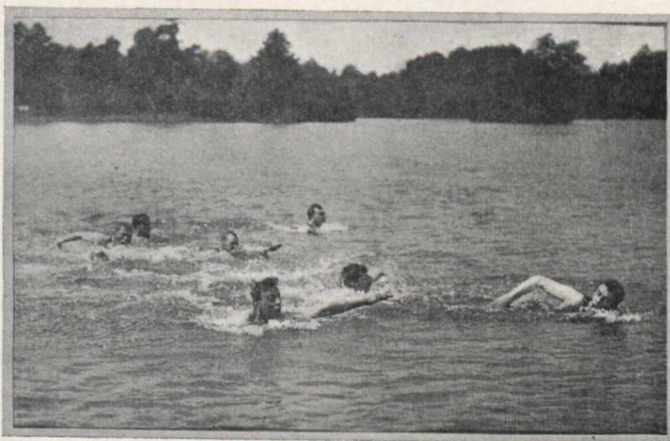
Baseball Nine.

played with the best teams within a radius of 20 miles. Twenty-five games were won, four games were lost, and one game was played for a draw; 106 goals were scored by the home team, and 35 goals were scored against them. Football has continued to be Bear Wood's favourite.

Baseball was undertaken in 1916, and a team placed in the London Area League. Bear Wood was able to retain fourth place, but owing to mismanagement of the team,

it was deemed advisable to abandon the undertaking. Until mismanagement became grossly evident, the entertainment was very popular with the patients, and provided them with many excellent afternoons. It is quite essential that an officer playing member should be available to supervise such adventures. This, at the time, Bear Wood did not possess.

Cricket was developed to provide the gap caused by the withdrawal of baseball. In



Keenly Contested Event.

1917 this Hospital met with very considerable success, and the game, when well played

duction on the cricket crease of the noisy rooting of the Canadian patients as in baseball.



Roy and Monkey Win Mixed Doubles.



View Across West Terrace.

and the home team winning, proved quite interesting to the patients. Visiting local teams were very much surprised at the intro-

Tennis has been developed to the extent of seven grass courts. It is popular with the patients and staff, and is watched by

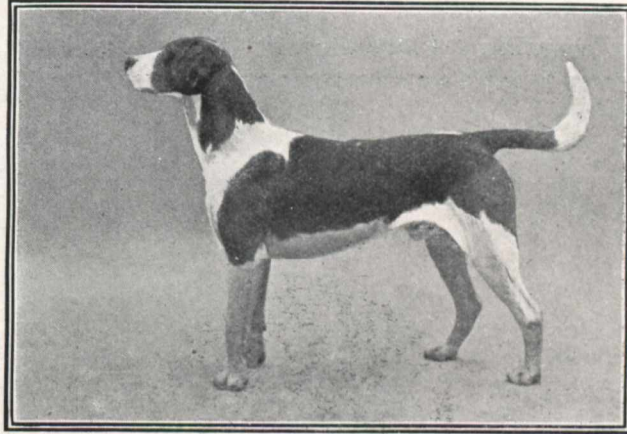
many during tournaments and matches with visiting players.

Bowling on the green proves a considerable boon to many cripples, as also does croquet.

Boating is exceedingly popular, and is facilitated by the loan of a sail boat, three canoes, a beautiful mahogany punt and two row-boats by Mr. Walter, and four Thames

the Garth Hunt assembling in the Hospital grounds on clear, bright autumn mornings. Bear Wood Hospital won the cup for walking the best puppy for this kennel in 1917. "Comrade" has developed into such a fine dog, he is fit for stud purposes at the age of one year.

Many of the neighbouring game preserves have been beaten by the Bear Wood patients



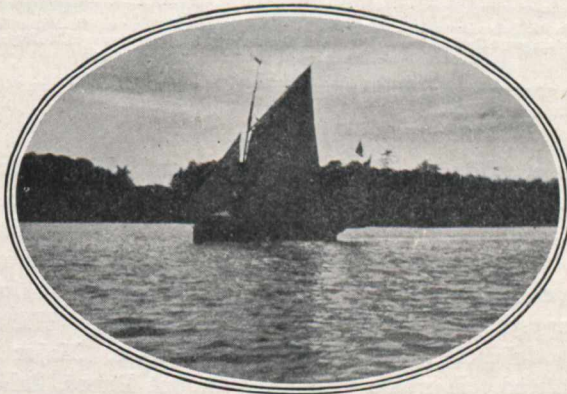
"Comrade" (Raglan) (Hemlock).

river row-boats, purchased chiefly by regimental funds. All have been repaired and maintained jointly by the Canadian Red Cross Society and the local Y.M.C.A. A canoe contributed by Mrs. Wilson Noble and a river boat by Mrs. Beeton-Foster have been added to the fleet during the year 1918.

Officers and patients are always welcome to follow the Garth Foxhounds or the local basset hounds in season. Many a delightful spectacle has been provided by

and shot over by the staff. Many a happy luncheon, enjoyed by all, has been provided by the kind hospitality of neighbouring gentlemen.

It is desired to record our appreciation to the Bear Wood Estate; Mr. Vincent Craig, Bill Hill; Lord Braybrooke, Billing Bear; Mr. Hadfield, Church Farm, Waltam St. Lawrence; Mr. Colebrook, Manor Farm, Finchampstead; Mr. Sturgis, Barkham Square; and Mr. Vere Alfrey, for many delightful outings.



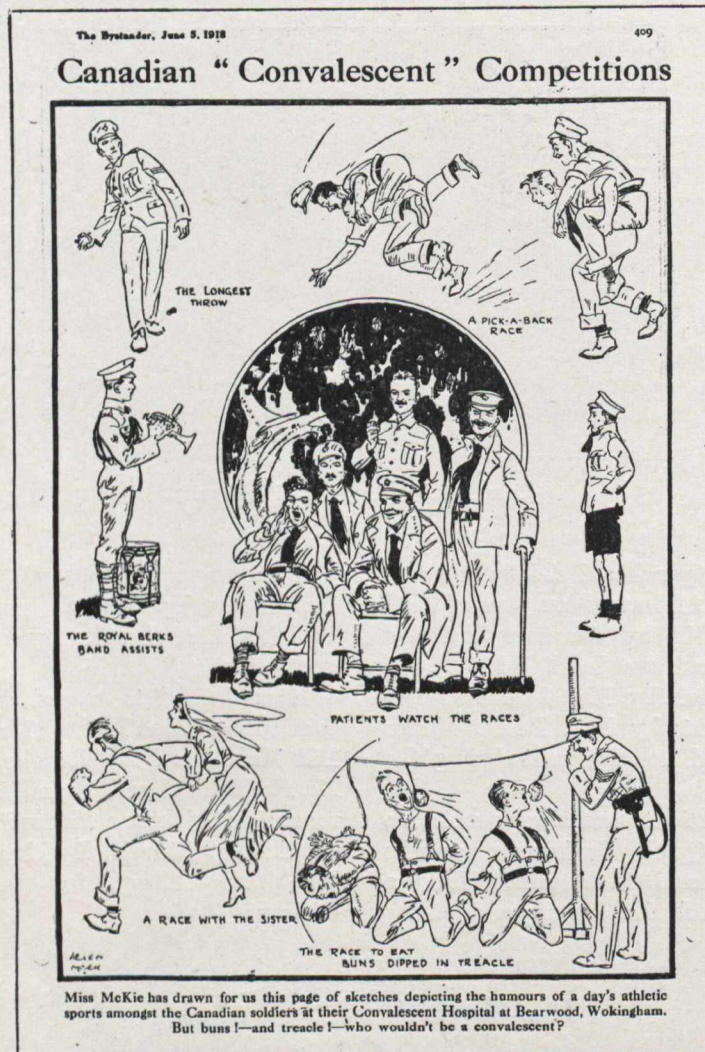
"Flora" at her best on the Lake.

Red Letter Days.

Fête days at this happy home of Canadians in England have been many and of the most enjoyable type.

Christmas, 1915, was the first, and was

by our generous and constant provider (Cowie, the butler) from his strong room. Many guests arrived to dine with the patients from the neighbouring country residences,



By courtesy of "The Bystander."

enjoyed to the extreme. The Art Gallery of the mansion was given over entirely to merriment. The tables were set in the form of a letter "E" and beautifully decorated with all the seasonable things for such an occasion, capped with an abundance of fruit and delicacies, excellent crackers not being omitted. It was a wonderful sight, the walls garlanded with greens, holly and festoons, the table more than provided with luxurious candelabra supplied

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Walter, uncle of the owner of the mansion, and Mrs. Henley, Mr. John Simmonds, daughter and granddaughter, of Newlands, Mrs. Murdoch, of Buckhurst, Wokingham, and daughter, Mr. Courteney Wilson, Winnerish Grove, and sisters, Major Foster, O.C. No. 4 Remount Depot, Arborfield, and sister, the wife of the officer commanding, and members of the Glenmore Ladies' Orchestra. A most happy evening was spent, ending up

with a dance. Perhaps the brightest moment was the dismantling of the Christmas tree and the presentation of gifts to each and all assembled. At this time, several officer



Greasy Pole.

patients were accommodated here and added very much to the perfection of arrangements and their completion without a hitch. Three of the six officer patients have since been killed on returning to active service.

May 24, 1916, was celebrated in truly Canadian fashion. The band of the Royal Berkshire Regimental Depot arrived early and provided excellent music for the entire day, thanks to the kindness of their Officer Commanding, Colonel Chase, who served with his regiment in Halifax, Canada, for a period. A baseball game was played in the forenoon and field sports of every character were run off in the afternoon on the beautiful West Terrace. Prizes to winners were distributed in the evening and a concert provided to bring a delightful day to a close.

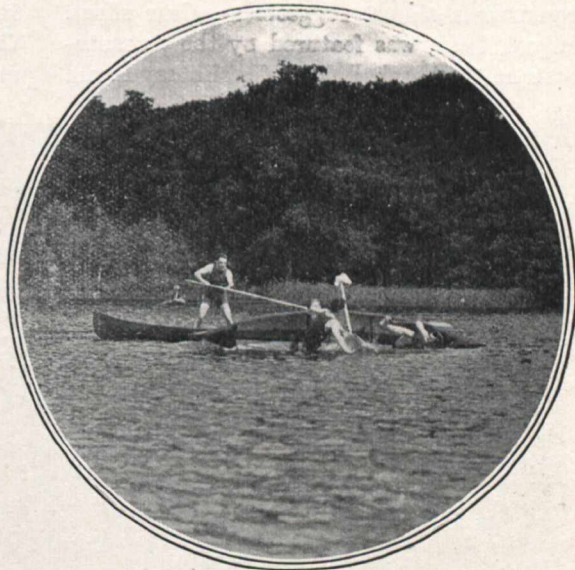
July 1, Dominion Day, was yet a greater achievement, the variation being that the morning was devoted to all kinds of aquatic sports, swimming races, greasy pole, water polo, and other fêtes, both healthful and entertaining. Patients were allowed to have their friends remain, tea being provided for them. In the evening, following the presentation of prizes to the winners of the events, a theatrical per-

formance "Are you a Mason?" was given in the new Recreation Hut just completed by the Canadian Red Cross Society, for the use of the patients. The farce was excellently rendered by a London party, and an appreciative audience packed the house.

An excellent afternoon was afforded the patients here by the Committee of the Blue Cross Society of Reading. A baseball match was arranged between the team of this Hospital and that of the Ontario Military (Government) Hospital, Orpington.

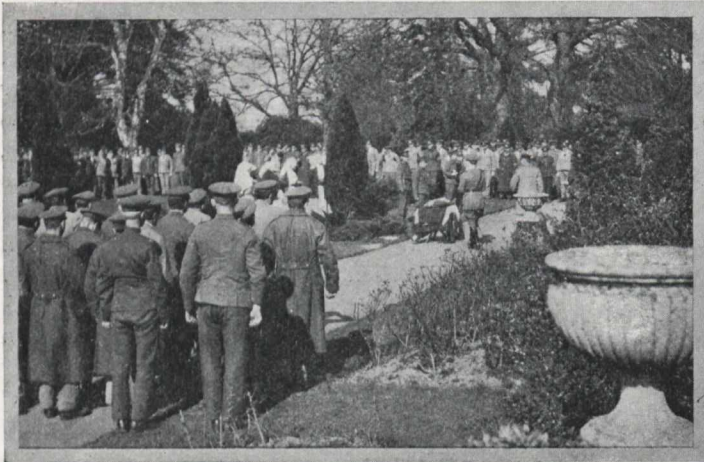
The game was played at Reading Grounds, Elm Park; 400 patients proceeded to Reading from Sindlesham Station, and were met there by a band, and marched to the Grounds, and street cars followed them to pick up any who might feel unequal to this walk. The game proved a victory for our men, and each player received a medal. All were entertained to tea by the Committee, and everyone was exceedingly happy.

Thanksgiving Day was observed with seasonable decorations for dining hall, special American dishes, and a bang-up Concert in the Recreation Hut in the evening.



Tilting Canoe.

Several official presentations of medals, D.S.O. and M.M., to recipients whom we were fortunate enough to have the privilege of temporarily caring for, were made here.

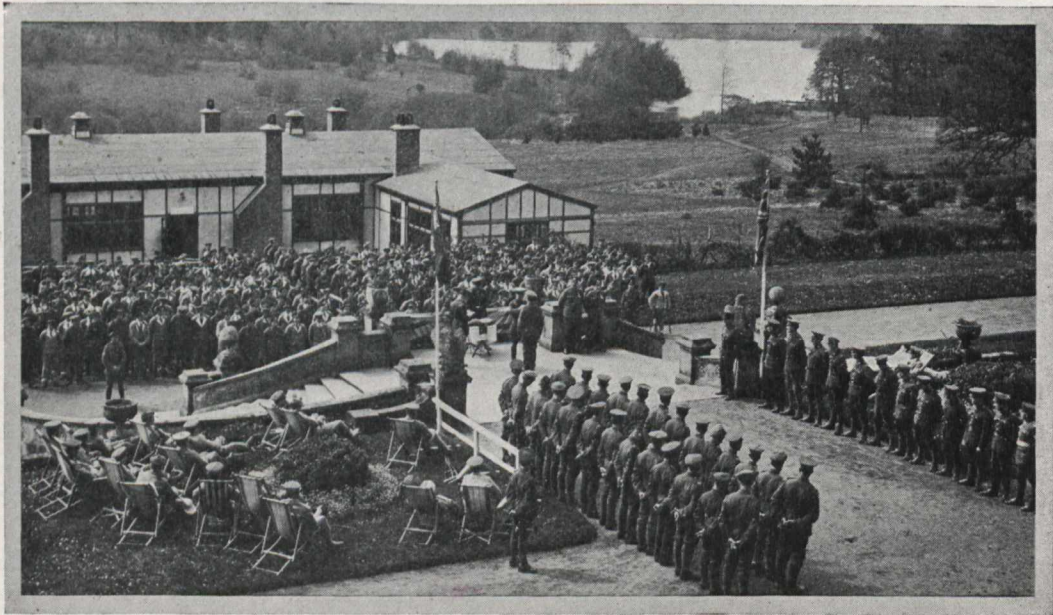


Presentation of Medals.

Surgeon-General Jones officiated once, Lieut.-General Turner on several occasions, Lieut.-Col. Godson-Godson, Lieut.-Col. Remnant, Bart., Major-General Hodgins, Brigadier-General Hill, C.R.E., Aldershot, and the Officer Commanding enjoyed the honour of officiating. With the exception of two occasions the band was always present, men drawn up on three sides of the square, and the ceremony completed amidst the most picturesque surroundings, either on the north or south terrace, or at the Sun Dial, west lawn, which with its four sentinel evergreen trees almost suggests an altar effect. July 4, 1917, was featured by the presentations on the baseball field of a Military Medal

to an American citizen of Des Moines, who won it fighting as a Canadian Tommy, by Lieut.-General Sir Richard Turner, V.C., K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Christmas, 1916, was different from that of 1915, in that the Canadian Colony of Bear Wood had more than doubled in number. Three dining halls were profusely decorated, and seasonable delicacies were provided in abundance. Great care was taken to make tables as homelike, clean, bright, and appetizing as possible. The *personnel* acted as hosts, and were delighted with the results of their efforts. The Bearwood Farm band visited all dining halls during the meals, and greatly amused the men. The patients were simply overcome with pleasure and gratitude, the genuine Canadian gratitude which will not permit of words, and which becomes very trying if the gaze is too long in interpreting it. Each patient received a metal cigarette case with "Bearwood 1916" stamped on same, provided by local Y.M.C.A., as well as three other gifts each, provided from other sources. The Canadian Red Cross Society sent wonderful Christmas stockings and writing wallets, as well as con-



Presentation of Medals by Sir Richard Turner, V.C.

tributing £45 towards other expenses incurred. The day was concluded in the Canadian Red Cross Society Recreation Hut by an entertainment — minstrel show put on by the Unit. It was excellent, and simply incapacitated the patients from over-indulgence in laughter.

Victoria Day, 1917, or Empire Day, as they call May 24 in this country, was a great day for the patients. A full programme was arranged by a most energetic committee, and carried out without a hitch. The grounds were most picturesque, and, thanks to the band of the Royal Berks Regimental Depôt, were only exceeded by the brightness of the happy assembly. Leading features this year were Officers' races, Sisters' races, and W.A.A.C. races, mounted pillow fights. The Y.M.C.A. erected a buffet tent near the course on the west lawn, and added very much to the pleasure of the day, for the patients and their lady guests. Prizes were awarded in the evening, and an excellent entertainment brought a most happy day to a successful close. Q.M.G. Canadians and staff honoured the Hospital with an impromptu visit.



Bear Wood v. Orpington, Baseball.

Dominion Day, July 1, 1917, being the semi-centennial of the Dominion's birth, was most fittingly observed. Swimming, punting, canoe and row-boat races were contested in the afternoon, as well as greasy pole endeavours from a floating dock moored near east bank of lake. Captain Hewett and Captain Hutson were prominent figures in the aquatic programme. The Royal Berks band played for us again with an all-day programme of excellent music. The band contested a swimming race for prizes limited to themselves. The afternoon field sports were excellent. Mrs. Arthur Walter presented the prizes, which were beautiful and numerous. An excellent Concert finished



Officers' Race.

the day. Surgeon-General Foster honoured the Hospital with a visit.

The first Canadian Prisoners of War to be repatriated from Germany through Switzerland were sent to this Hospital to be prepared for return to Canada. Upon a few hours' notice an excellent impromptu reception (public) was organized. The party numbered 34. The Acting Mayor (Martin), in the absence of Mayor Milne, organized a civic reception with full honours, which in Wokingham is a most picturesque affair. The Mayor and Corporation, including all municipal officers, were present in official robes. Police, firemen, &c., Royal Berks band, Wokingham band, Cadets' Fife band, public schools bugles were also present. A mounted escort of twelve beautiful horses was furnished by permission of Lieut.-Col. Badcock. No. 4 British Remount Depot, 400 Canadian patients and *personnel*, with Motor Transport decorated to carry prisoners, made up parade. Citizens awaited the arrival of our repatriated boys. As they passed through the station the band struck up "Oh, Canada," and a roaring three cheers followed. The poor fellows

were simply delighted. The Acting Mayor officially welcomed them, and the parade progressed to the City Hall and then to Hospital along thoroughfares packed with as kindly and sympathetic a populace as could possibly have been found even in Canada.

Christmas, 1917, was very bright and happy at Bear Wood. The Halls, Dining Rooms and Recreation Hut were beautifully decorated with generous touches of colour which well set off the abundance of green festoons. At 5 a.m. the Officers, Sisters, and 40 *personnel* visited every patient's bed and presented him, by candlelight, with a metal cigarette case, with "Bear Wood 1917 and Y.M.C.A." stamped on it, containing Players' cigarettes. Each was also the recipient of an excellent Canadian Red Cross Society stocking. The boys were absolutely

taken by surprise, and were so pleased to see Officers and Sisters putting forth a personal effort on their behalf at such an unusual hour, that they were at once homesick, and two or three were even moved to tears. At 6.45 a.m. a Canadian regimental band played around the grounds at reveille. All attended Church Parade, and then spent the day awaiting the time for evening proceedings. The tables in the dining-halls were simply beautiful with their clean white linen, white napkins (paper), crackers, candles, fruit, nuts and abundance of seasonable delicacies. The boys were told by



Duke of Connaught Meeting Nursing Sisters.

the Officer Commanding that there was nothing else to do for one and a-half hours but eat and enjoy themselves, which cue the boys appreciatively adopted at once. The *personnel* put on another excellent minstrel show, which was very amusing and well received by the patients.

Friday, May 24, 1918. Empire Day Sports, Band of Royal Berks Regimental Depot provided music for the third time for this annual event. Upon its arrival soldiers paraded to wood side of lake and there witnessed excellent aquatic sports, returning at noon. The canoe single and double events were very interesting and close, the wind causing extra interest and unusual art. Miss McKie—artist for London *Bystander* and *Graphic*—attended, and made many clever pencil impressions. Afternoon was given over in festive style to field sports on

West Terrace. The weather was delightful—bright, but cool. Events were very interesting and keenly contested. The patients took full advantage of the privilege of entertaining their civilian friends, and a large and exceedingly happy party resulted. Acting-sergeant Smythe won the aggregate prize, winning 28 points. The Warwick Repertoire party of London played "The Mollusc" to a crowded and appreciative audience in the evening in the Canadian Red Cross Recreation Hut. The real event of the day was the tug-of-war, Officers v. Sergeants (Staff). The Officers won.



Secret of Duke of Connaught's Popularity.

A most opportune time was chosen by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to visit the Canadians at Bear Wood. Favoured by delightful sunshine, the Royal party arrived at 4 p.m., June 8, 1918. The patients, staff, sub-staff, and Q.M.A.A.C. *personnel* awaited their arrival on the north

lawn. The Duke was received by the Officer Commanding and Mrs. Arthur Walter, mother of the owner of the mansion. Having taken the Royal salute, His Royal Highness met the Officers and Sisters and inspected the Q.M.A.A.C. The Duke then interviewed individually each patient from the sick wards, and addressed all the patients in words which were keenly appreciated by them.

He moved among the six hundred patients, and was especially interested in those wearing ribbons for previous campaigns, P.P.C.L.I. French Canadians and several Canadian Indians. His keen interest in the patients and his feeling remarks about Canada and reference to their own particular home surroundings quite won their hearts.

His Royal Highness inspected the Guard of Honour formed from the *personnel*, and then proceeded to the Officers' Lounge for tea.

Before departing, he inspected the sick wards, dining-room, Canadian Red Cross Society Recreation Hut, and the Y.M.C.A. canteen. The Duke walked through the gardens and expressed himself as charmed

with the excellent facilities we had for recuperation in the midst of ideal surroundings, of which the aquatic facilities were not the least in importance.

His Royal Highness left expressing pleasure at all he had seen and his appreciation of having visited this Unit.

Local Friends and Helpers.

Our visits from Royalty have been that of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and H.R.H. Princess Christian and her daughter Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein.

Her Royal Highness Princess Christian and her daughter Princess Victoria were received on the North Terrace by staff and patients, and a few kind words having been addressed

by Princess Christian to the patients, all proceeded to the local baseball diamond, where the visiting party evinced a keen interest in the game as well as the enthusiastic rooting of the patients. Their Highnesses honoured the Officers' Mess by remaining to tea, and departed after expressing their appreciation of hospitality and re-

questing the privilege of paying us another visit.

Lieut.-General Sir Richard Turner, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., has always been an interested, sympathetic and welcome visitor to Bear Wood. Patients are always pleased to see him, and the General's genial personality and his genuine interest in them individually, give the reason for the hearty welcome extended by the patients. The General has honoured the Hospital by being accompanied on his visits by Lady Turner, and also his daughter.

Major-General Foster, C.B., has been most generous in his attitude and interest in the welfare of this Hospital. He visited it on two different occasions whilst on leave from Corps duties in France, and has frequently paid official and non-official visits since becoming Director of Medical Services for Overseas Military Forces of Canada. We are always pleased to see him, and are especially grateful for his kindly interest in our welfare.

Surgeon-General Jones, C.M.G., was often a pleasant and interested visitor, and on one occasion when signifying over the 'phone his intention to visit Bear Wood in the near future and being requested to come on a certain date, as the Right Rev. The Bishop of Oxford had intimated his desire to pay us a visit, acquiesced, and also brought with him Sir Thomas Galway, D.D.M.S., Aldershot, and completed a most distinguished array of luncheon guests.

General the Right Rev. Bishop Taylor-Smith, Director-General of Chaplain Services of the British Armies, has proven a most steadfast friend of Canadians at Bear Wood.

This unit has been honoured by three annual visits from this eloquent dignitary of the Church. On two Whit Sundays the Canadians here have been assembled under the same oak tree, and in appreciative silence worshipped under his leadership, and absorbed with care the delightful and serious thoughts inspiration has assisted this venerable personage to impart. These services will always be memorable religious events in the minds of those whose good fortune it was to be on parade.

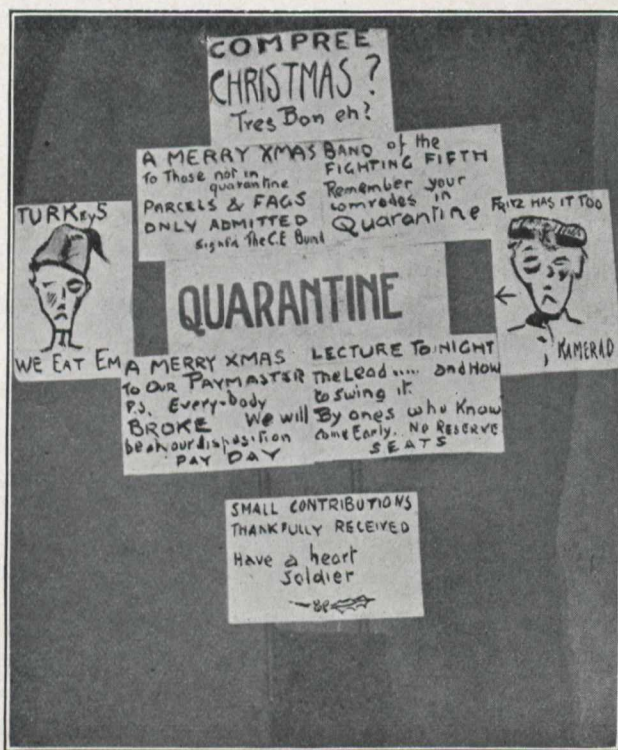
Col. and Mrs. MacKenzie, "Ramslade," and Col. and Mrs. Welton, "Orchard," many times entertained parties of Canadian patients from this Hospital in considerable numbers.

Perhaps the most appreciated off-hand, home type of hospitality which it has been the privilege of Bear Wood Canadians to enjoy was proffered most generously by Major Foster, Officer Commanding the British Remount Depot No. 4,

Arborfield. The other ranks of the two units were encouraged to reciprocate monthly in social undertakings and the officers of each unit exchanged visits almost weekly, developing the finest kind of unrestrained fellowship. We always found we had an excellent friend and counsellor in Major Foster.

The Mayor of Wokingham and Mrs. Mylne have always been most solicitous regarding the welfare of the Canadian patients, and practically placed everything Wokingham possessed at the hands of the Canadians at all times—simply for the asking.

Mrs. Wodehouse, the wife of the Officer Commanding, has been indefatigable in her endeavours to assist in making Bear Wood patients as happy and contented as possible.



Christmas Morning, 1917.
Measles Contacts.

Many a reticent boy has had a minor grievance righted at once by reciting it, sometimes consciously, sometimes unconsciously, to the wife of the Officer Commanding. An open

tained patients in a delightful manner in their own beautiful old residence, Easthamstead.

Lady Haversham has on more occasions



First Canadians to be Repatriated from Germany.

heart, always anxious to learn the slightest wish of these fine fellows, with unexcelled sympathy for the fellow who was lonesome

than one extended a helping hand to the patients here. By gifts of fruit in season and from her glasshouses the sick ward patients



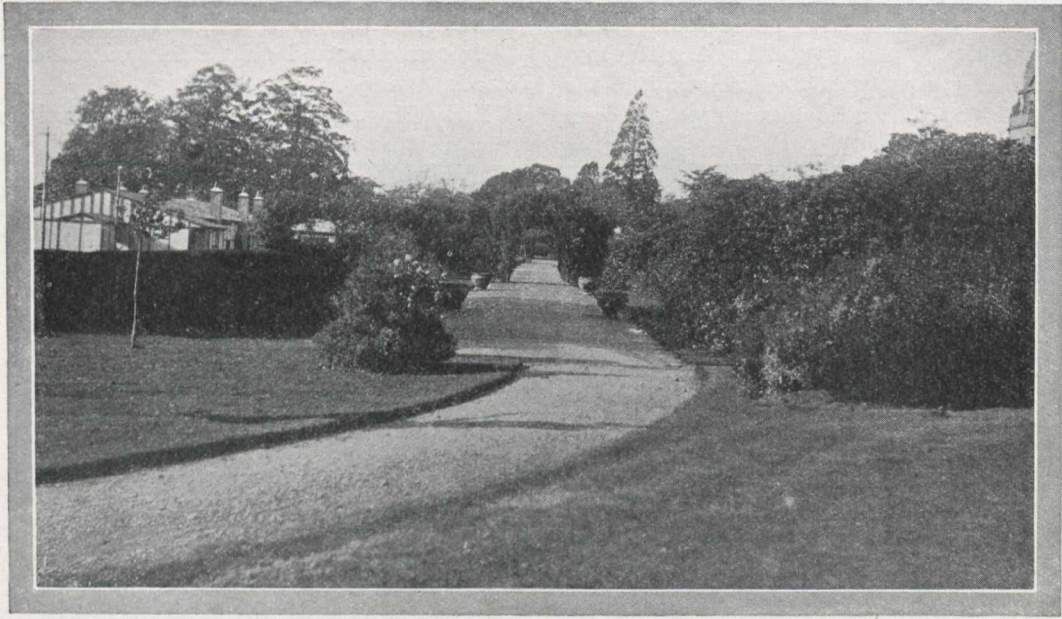
Staff, 1917, and Colonel Godson-Godson.

for far-off Canadian haunts and friends, was constantly awaiting.

The Marquess and Marchioness of Downshire have many times befriended Bear Wood with motor transport assistance, presents of game in season, and also enter-

have been gladdened; by personal visits and otherwise the staff have been assisted in obtaining their wish.

Sir George and Lady Watson of Sulhamstead, Reading, have many times visited here and interested themselves with the



Entrance to the Rose Garden.

welfare of officer and other rank patients. Lady Watson has provided and installed our cinematograph machine, which has been such a boon to happiness here.

Mrs. Arthur Walter, mother of the owner of this beautiful mansion, has been a sincere and untiring devotee to the interests and welfare of the Canadians at Bear Wood. Since taking up her residence near the Hospital she has undertaken many useful projects on behalf of our patients and by frequent unconventional visits to the sisters' mess has always kept in touch with our activities, interests, and desires, and has many a time just added the necessary influence to turn the tide of fortune right into our midst. Mrs. Walter's work party have repaired over 8,000 socks for the patients.

Friends who have interested themselves in this Hospital are numerous and genuine. Mrs. Murdoch, of Buckhurst, Wokingham, has always been a local booster for Bear Wood and its charges, and has more than once befriended them by giving frequent entertainments at her country home as well as interesting her many friends in our behalf.

Mr. John Simonds, Newlands, Arborfield, and daughters have always been hospitable to staff and patients, constantly including in their dinner parties officers from the staff, who are so far from home and corresponding Canadian privileges. Miss Beatrice Simonds has created amongst the sick ward patients considerable interest in art needlework.

The Beeton-Fosters, of Sindlesham House, were among the earliest to call and pay their respects to the Canadian newcomers and are still constantly proffering us their sympathy, hospitality, and material assistance, having contributed a Thames River boat to the fleet of recreation craft maintained on the lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Littledale, Wick Hill House, have frequently extended the privileges of Wick Hill House to the Canadians here.

Mr. Courtney Wilson and his sisters have always been most courteous and sympathetic towards the Canadians domiciled here, and have constantly courted the privilege of assisting in every way possible, either in the work of the unit or extending the hospitality of Winnersh Grove to the members of the staff here.

The Misses Cobham, Avenue House, have welcomed the staff of this unit to their hospitable home and have closely associated themselves with our undertakings.

Mrs. Hatheral, of Clare Court, Wokingham, has always shown a keen interest in the welfare of the sick ward patients, sending them fruit in season. The officers have been frequent guests in this hospitable home.

Mrs. Montizambert and Miss Montizambert, of Trelawny, Earley, have been very true friends of Bear Wood. They have been unceasing in their solicitations after the Canadians here and practically ran an open house



General Sir Richard Turner, V.C., Meeting the Nursing Sisters.

for many of our manly Canadian patients. Miss Montizambert was official Red Cross visitor for the Canadian Society Headquarters in London. Her efforts on our behalf always met with generous response, and the lack of motor transport, which necessitated Miss Montizambert discontinuing this personal duty at Bear Wood, brought to a close very happy departmental associations. The present visitor, Mrs. Wodehouse, was recommended by Miss Montizambert

to carry on this branch of the Reading district work.

Mr. and Mrs. Howkins, Sindlesham Mill, have constantly interested themselves in the welfare of the Canadians here. Many enjoyable afternoons of tennis have resulted from their hospitality.

Mr. Lowry, Thames Conservancy staff, has conveyed many happy parties of patients from here on his different launches from Reading.

Y.M.C.A.

The extent of the activities of the Y.M.C.A. are worthy of note, as really it has proven to be a friend indeed. During the period of 20 months 594 days, 83 of which were Sundays, £8,628 13s. 7d. were taken over the counter. The highest takings for one day were £41 11s. 3d. Another concrete example of the activities of this canteen is that in September, 1917, one ton nine hundred and sixty-six pounds of fruit were sold, and during the next month two and a quarter tons, chiefly apples. From the above receipts the sum of £825 13s. 2d. was paid out for recreation purposes—outdoor sports and entertainments. Three hundred and fourteen shows were staged in the Recreation Hut (Red Cross) during the twenty months by arrangement of the Y.M.C.A., viz., 126 concerts, 125

picture shows, 36 dramatic performances, and 27 illustrated lectures. In addition to the above, a religious meeting was held every Friday evening of a nature which appealed to the boys. During January, 1918, a change of leaders was necessary owing to Mr. Starkey leaving for a new field of work near Manchester. It was deemed a good time to change to Canadian Army Y.M.C.A. supervision. Arrangements were completed and all stock was purchased, including equipment and the Hut, costing \$3,500.00. which was paid for by the Canadian Y.M.C.A. This closed a most happy association with Reading Y.M.C.A., which has been appreciatively referred to more than once in these records. Outstanding personalities in these successful undertakings were Mr. Martin



South Elevation.

Sutton, White Knights, Earley, and Mr. Leonard Sutton, Hillside, Reading.

The Canadian Administration of the Y.M.C.A. Canteen has now been in operation for a period of five months ending June 30, 1918. The total takings have amounted to £3,327 16s. 6d. a monthly average of £665 11s. 5d., the highest takings for any one day were £48 14s. 6d.

Lieut. Mutchmore, a very active efficient officer, has been in charge since the inception of the Canadian Service and was only recently succeeded by a competent capable officer Captain Snider from France. Both officers understand the Canadian soldier, his whims and fancies, and have endeavoured always to meet his every wish.

Concerts during this period have numbered 53. The average cost has been £4 and the total attendance 25,040. Lectures numbering 10 have been provided, drawing a total attendance of 2,888. Cinema shows numbering 29 have been well attended, totalling 11,590, costing on the average £2 per evening. Religious services in the Canteen Hut numbering 38, with a total attendance of 2,178, have been held.

The library has been patronized to the extent of 1,737 books.

Occasional Whist Drives for the sick ward patients have been arranged and very much appreciated.

All athletic supplies are paid for by the Y.M.C.A., and every encouragement is given to the patients to play baseball, cricket, tennis, bowls, &c. Prizes for field day sports, May 24 and July 1, were provided by the canteen at a total cost of £29 18s. 6d. A further £20 has been paid on the exchange of Canadian Red Cross dynamo for a more efficient one to improve cinema pictures.

Extension work of 10 concerts given to Reading Hospitals and athletic equipment to Canadian Section of the R.A.F., Reading, have contributed to a grand total of excellent service.

The work of the Y.M.C.A. canteen would not be complete without due reference to the very important asset: its lady voluntary workers, who, rain or shine, invariably are present, morning and afternoon, to cater to the wants of the Canadian boys. Miss Beatrice Simmonds, Newlands, at the request of the Officer Commanding, undertook in 1916 to organize the voluntary assistance, and has since, through the generous cooperation and kindness of the ladies enumerated below, maintained this staff, so much appre-



A Peep from the East.

ciated by the men :—Miss Wilson, Miss E. N. Wilson, Miss Cobham, Miss Garland, and Miss Philbrick, who have been associated with the service since the beginning ; Mrs. Arnett, Mrs. Hewett, Mrs. Hutson, Mrs. Lemieux, while their Officers were resident at this Hospital, and Mrs. Ditchfield of the Rectory, Barkham, Miss E. C. Garland, Miss P. Philbrick, Mrs. Duncan Spiller, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Allfrey, Miss Browning, Miss Bishop, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Marr, and the wife of the Officer Commanding. The Officer Commanding extends his very sincere thanks to the Y.M.C.A. lady workers for their untiring efforts on behalf of the patients here, and also his appreciation of the beneficial moral influence and happiness their presence has caused.

The Ontario Provincial Government, through the Premier, Sir Wm. Hearst, and his local representatives, Agent-General Lieut.-Col. Reid and Deputy Agent-General Major Clark, have caused a constant flow of beautiful Canadian apples, Canadian canned fruits, periodicals, and personal comforts for the patients here, to arrive in ample quantities at Bear Wood. What a boon this has been to our boys has been emphasized in letters of appreciation more than once.

The Canadian Press during these trying times has, at considerable personal expense, provided this Hospital, gratis, with an abundance of home reading matter. Every mail-ship arriving has evidenced the fact by the appearance in our reading room of fresh news from all parts of our great Dominion. The genuine appreciation of the patients and the grateful thanks of the Officer Commanding are tendered to the Toronto papers : *Saturday Night, Sunday World, Jack Canuck, Globe, Canadian Courier, Mail and Empire, World, Evening News, and The Star* ; *The Kingston British Whig, Port Hope Weekly Guide, Hamilton Herald, Brantford Daily Expositor, Thorold Semi-Weekly Post, Welland Telegraph, Almont Gazette, Niagara Falls Gazette and The Evening Review, Port Elgin Times, The London Free Press and The Advertiser, The Blenheim News, Tribune, St. Mary's Journal, Parry Sound North Star, Port Arthur News and Chronicle, Fort William Times Journal, The Dryden Observer and Star, The Keewatin Enterprise, and The Waterford Star* ; the Winnipeg papers—*The Manitoba Free Press and The Evening Tribune* ; *The Prince Albert Daily Herald, Regina Daily Herald, Saskatoon Phœnix, Saskatoon Daily Star, the Wolseley News* from Saskatchewan ;

the weekly and morning *Albertian*, *The Calgary Albertian*, *Edmonton Journal*, and the *Hanna Herald* from Alberta; *The Vancouver Daily Province*, *The World and Victoria Colonist*, *Nainamo Free Press* from British Columbia, *The Dawson Weekly News* from the Yukon, *The Quebec Telegraph*, *The Montreal Herald*, and *The Standard* from Quebec Province, *Daily Gleaner*, Fredericton, *The St. John Globe*, and *The Evening Times* and *Star* from New Brunswick, and *The*

Halifax Evening Mail, *Morning Chronicle*, and *The Sydney Post*, *Yarmouth Telegram*, *Yarmouth Herald*, *Truro Daily News*, *Truro Citizen*, *Outlook*, Middleton, from Nova Scotia; *Evening Guardian*, Charlstown, Prince Edward Island; *International*, Portal, North Dakota, U.S.A. *Evening Bulletin*, Philadelphia, Penn., *Seattle Sunday Times*, U.S.A., and papers from F. C. Campbell, Winnipeg, as well as the illustrated weekly *Canada*.

July, 1918.

In bringing the records to a close at the end of two complete years, it is most fitting that reference be made to an opportunity which occurred for fraternizing between our benefactor, Mr. John Walter, and Major-General Foster, C.B., Director Medical Services, Overseas Military Forces of Canada.

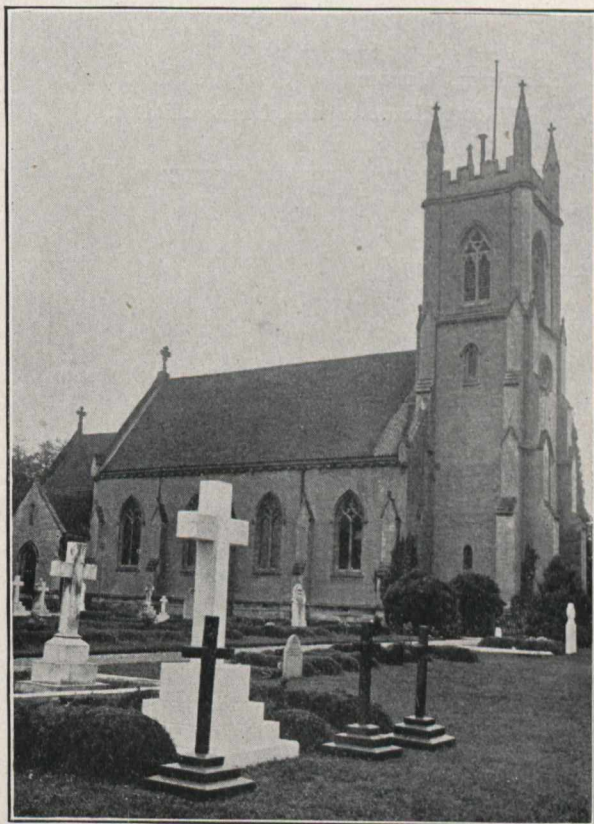
An accidental meeting of Major-General G. L. Foster, C.B., Director of Medical Services, Lieut.-Col. Amyot, C.M.G., Professor of Hygiene, University of Toronto, and adviser of sanitation to the D.M.S. Canadians, with Col. Rudolf, C.B.E., Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto, Consultant of Medicine, Canadians, and Lieut.-Col. John Stewart, Professor of Surgery, Dalhousie University, Consultant in Surgery, Canadians, on the same morning as Mr. John Walter, donor of the Mansion, returned from British Propaganda work in Spain, afforded the impetus for a memorable luncheon at the Officers' Mess of this Unit. It was the only occasion on which Mr. Walter had honoured the Mess with his presence in two years, owing to his absence from England, and the presence of our Director

with the three other Canadian Medical Leaders was a happy coincidence. Mr. John Walter was very courteous in his remarks as to the surprisingly excellent state of his property as he found it after such a long occupation, and expressed his great pleasure and deep sense of gratitude he felt in having been granted the opportunity of having Bear Wood used for such magnificent work, the present magnitude of which had never been anticipated. Major-General G. L. Foster, C.B., assured Mr. John Walter of the sincere appreciation of the Canadian authorities of the generous hospitality afforded this Unit by their happy occupation of his residence, and remarked in a feeling manner upon the entire absence of friction of the slightest nature during our residence here. He referred to the individual gratitude of the thousands of Canadian patients who had been fortunate enough to enjoy the beautiful haunts of nature at Bear Wood, and stated that they would carry home to Canada indelible impressions of goodwill recorded while in his home, which would do much to strengthen the Imperial ties that bind Canada to the Motherland.



Obituary.

These records would not be complete without a reference to our departed comrades. Two patients have died at Bear Wood since its inception, and two patients moved to Reading War Hospital died a few days after their transfer there. One patient who died here was removed for burial by his relatives to Stirling, Scotland. The other three, along with Flight-Lieut. J. D. P. Scholfield, R.F.C., were buried with full military honours in the peaceful, beautifully kept cemetery of St. Catherine's Church. All have quartered oak crosses erected, with brass tablets placed on same, by their Bear Wood comrades. Further, a brass tablet has been placed in St. Catherine's Church by the Officer Commanding and the members of the Sergeants' Mess in loving memory of Flight-Lieuts. Scholfield and Pilling, both killed while flying in England. Both were excellent characters, members of the staff of this Hospital previous to their joining the Air Service.



St. Catherine's Church.
Canadian Graves in Foreground.

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