

"KINGSWOOD"

:: Massey-Harris :: Convalescent Home IN ENGLAND ==== For Canadian Soldiers

Bulletin No. 2

EKINGSWOOD, " DULWICH, LONDON, G.E.







REAR VIEW OF KINGSWOOD

The original "Kingswood," was built by Mr. Thos. Tapling, M.P., a wellknown London carpet merchant, and a noted philatelist. In 1890 the property was purchased by Mr. John Lawson Johnston, who having made a fortune out of Bovril, purchased this lordly pleasure house in the charming Dulwich wood district, certainly the most rural spot within the same distance of the center of London. Including enlargements and elaborate accessories, Mr. Johnston spent £100,000 on the estate.

On the death of Mr. Lawson Johnston, the estate was disposed of to the Russian Princess Wiasemsky, who lived in it only a short time. The Estate then passed into the hands of a Mr. Dederich. It was during this occupancy that the Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, paid, on July 5th, 1913, a memorable visit to "Kingswood," despite the threats of the Suffragettes. Last year the estate was rented by Lord Tredegar during his period of war service with the R.N.D. at the Crystal Palace.

It has now come into the hands of Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., under a leasing agreement that provides for its use as a Convalescent Home for Canadian Soldiers for the period of the war and so long afterwards as may be necessary.



Kingswood is a noble mansion of Elizabethan style nestling amidst the most lovely surroundings and in its own park-like grounds of about 30 acres. Although "old baronial" in design, it is modern-built, and, consequently, lacks some of that peculiar atmosphere that age alone can give. Still the entrance porch with its oak panelling and a knocker that might have come from the door of some old sanctuary, the hall, the wonderful fire-place in the drawing room, the bay and oriel windows, the stained glass, the recreation room, to say nothing of the several kitchens, service, and store rooms and cellars, or the arrangements for heating and lighting, all speak of the intention, not unsuccessfully carried out, of re-

creating an old castle but with modern comforts and conveniences. Some notion of the capacity of the mansion and of its suitability for the Samaritan purposes it is now being put to may be gathered from the fact that it comprises 49 rooms, exclusive of the two entrance lodges, and coachman's, chauffeur's and gardener's cottages. The great and outer halls, with their galleried staircase, lofty beamed ceilings and stained glass windows, are of palatial dimensions. In the beautiful drawing room is a splendid Algerian marble chimney piece, rich hand worked plaster ceiling and satinwood fittings. In the dining hall is a handsome carved fireplace, and the painted panels of the ceiling represent the months and seasons. The

billiard room is most richly furnished, with large, up-to-date, handsome billiard table, with raised platforms and electric fans. On the main corridor of the first floor is the library, ballroom and a number of spacious bedrooms. At the far end of the corridor is the Culloden room, an exact replica of Queen Mary's apartments at Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh, the stained glass windows depicting Jacobean incidents. The famous marble fountain on the front lawn, as well as several of the fireplaces and other fittings and ornaments, were originally in St. Cloud Palace, Paris, France, and were purchased from the French Government after the destruction of the Palace in the Franco-Prussian war. In the allotment of rooms for the purposes of the Home, the hall is being used for the men's quiet recreation rooms, for quiet games and conversation and reading, while a smaller room, leading off from it, will be a writing room. The drawing room makes a fine large ward, while the dining room will still be used as such.



A VIEW IN THE GROUNDS

OPENING

Although the formal opening of the Home did not take place until June 1st, the first lot of patients (13 in all) arrived on Wednesday, April 5th, 1916, from Bromley Hospital, and a further lot of seven on the following day. During the first six weeks, 146 patients had been received, many of whom had been sent back to the front or discharged.

A full report of the opening by the Lord Mayor of London, presided over by Sir George Perley (High Commissioner for Canada), which was evidently very successful, will be given in the next bulletin, which will be issued as soon as full information has been received.

This Roll of Honor gives the names of the men who have enlisted in the service of the Empire and who are connected with the Company.

This list has been compiled from the best information available, but is necessarily very incomplete. We will be glad to receive advice of any alterations and additions that should be made to it in order to make it complete and up-to-date.

Single Star before a name means "wounded." Black type signifies "has made the supreme sacrifice."

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