

Soldier Civil Re-Establishment

Among the many outside tribunes of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment which goes to feed the one central flood of endeavor towards rehabilitating the returned man, that of the Chaplain Service Branch "first aid" in many cases of social emergency.

Spiritual ministrations to the men who are convalescing and those in hospital and sanatoria go hand in hand with welfare and social service work. Every denomination is represented and in places where the ministrations of another church are desired the co-operation of the clergy is freely sought and given to carry on the good work.

Through the activities of the chaplains a good many extra treats come the way of the men, and that the S. C. R. chaplain is, as a rule, a man in whom the ideal in service to his fellows ranks first is demonstrated by a glance through the diaries of one or two of these men.

From a unit in the west where two men are working out some idea of the amount of the distance covered in visiting hospital patients alone. Here eight hospitals are on the list, a distance of twenty-three miles separating one from the headquarters, but all are visited regularly, have a weekly service, and in addition many visits are made to the families of men and to men in their own homes.

Speaking of the spirit of those visited, the assistant chaplain of this unit says:

"I have been greatly delighted with the general tone and spirit of all the men in my talks with them about their own and their country's future, and I have made a special point of trying to impress upon them the valuable service they can render to Canada by the two fold attitude of stern opposition to every form of injustice and the loyal support of constituted authority."

An instance of splendid co-operation is recorded from another unit where no less than five different denominations have organized a system of local help under the guidance of the S. C. R. Chaplain. Each denomination has made itself responsible for providing a choir and musicians for one Sunday in the month. This bright music has considerably cheered the hospital patients. Medical officers have added their thanks to those of the men for the help so given.

In addition to the work of interesting other people in the hospital cases and providing entertainments, the chaplain must have a fund of information on hand upon the matter of pensions, medical care and other provisions made by the Department, as he is constantly asked to adjust or explain difficulties of this nature. In many districts the chaplain has been able in this way to act as intermediary between the various branches of the Department and the patients by handling correspondence, etc., and also through visiting the homes has been able to relieve some cases of hardship arising out of excessive rentals, payments of debts, etc.

In Guelph a base-ball team has been organized by the chaplain. This team is now playing the Summer Series in the Amateur League. A boxing tournament and bowling competition were also got up in the same district.

Citizens in Guelph have contributed \$350, which they presented to the S. C. R. chaplain for the purchase of tents to be used as a reading and games room for the men during hot days. Furnishing for the tents have been offered by the local Soldiers' Comfort Committee and the Red Cross. In this district summer services are held out of doors.

At Saint Agathe boats and canoes have been provided for the men in addition to literature and stationery.

From Calgary comes word that the social side of the work has been considerably extended. One hundred patients and nursing sisters were taken on a two day trip to Banff where they were billeted in private homes and

hotels for an enjoyable little holiday. During the daytime excursions were made into the mountains where the men enjoyed fishing, and in the evening a dance and whist-drive were given by the local G. W. V. A.

In Winnipeg an Athletic and Literary Society was founded by the chaplain to have as its object the promotion of clean, healthy sport and the care of the social economic and spiritual need of all ex-service men and their dependents. Those eligible for membership are all ex-soldiers and sailors and their dependents.

At Kingston twenty patients are taken each week for a day in the country. Owners of private motor cars have co-operated splendidly with the chaplain, in his efforts to brighten the lives of the patients by taking them for pleasure drives and fishing expeditions.

The St. John's Ambulance Brigade gave a drive and picnic to a hundred patients, and the Catholic Women's Societies provided a steamer picnic with supper for two hundred patients.

Through such interests the Chaplain Service Branch is linking up the men—who would otherwise be isolated in hospitals, sanatoria and private homes through weakness and other disabilities arising from war wounds,—with the happy outside world.

RECEPTION TO RETURNED HEROES

On Monday, November 3rd a very pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McDonald, Glasgow Road. The occasion was a reception in honor of their son Lieut. Wm. A. McDonald who not long since returned from having spent two years overseas. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have the proud distinction—a distinction shared by only a few others on Prince Edward Island—the distinction of having not only sons but also a grandson in the war.

Besides Lieut. Wm. A. McDonald who spent two years in France Mr. McDonald's second son Lieut. D. A. McDonald, Supt. of the Falconwood Farm, served four years overseas and grandson Grant McCallum spent three years at the front and it will be remembered by some no doubt, too, how that in 1915 Miss Agnes McDonald, matron of one of the hospitals in New York City volunteered for service in France and when waiting for an appointment Miss McDonald was drowned in Providence, R. I. while out canoeing. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald had the sympathy of the whole country-side in the time of their great sorrow.

Although their days of sorrow and of anxiety because of the war have been many the splendid record of their family must now be a great source of comfort to them and because of this splendid record they are open to hearty congratulations. Lieut. Wm. A. McDonald enlisted with the Canadian Railway Troops and during the two years in France the work done by him was of a very high order. Before enlisting Mr. McDonald was for several years Supt. for O'Brien Fawler and McDougall, one of the leading railway contracting companies of Canada. His many friends were delighted to have him back again and a large number of them took the opportunity of calling upon him at his home on the above mentioned date and presenting him with an address and a penknife with the masonic emblem beautifully engraved on the handle. The address was read by Rev. R. H. Staver and the presentation was made by Dan M. McLeod of Hunter River. Although taken very much by surprise Lieut. McDonald made a very fitting reply and thanked his friends for their kindness and their thoughtfulness.

When the presentation was over some time was spent in games and music. Later the following programme was carried out. Duette, Miss Ruth Dickleson and Mr. Richard Dickleson; Reading, Miss Dan M. McLeod; Solo, Lieut. Wm. A. McDonald, encored; Reading, Miss Adele McPherson; Story, Edison Mutch; Monologue, Lieut. D. A. McDonald, encored; Reading, Address, Rev. R. H. Staver.

Besides the friends near at hand many came from Brackley Point and other sections in the Eastern part of the Island. Among these were Nursing Sister Miss Christine McLeod, Valleyfield recently returned from France Miss Sadie McLeod, Supt. of the Provincial Hospital, Charlottetown, Miss Louise McKinnon, Supt. of the P. E. Island Hospital, Charlottetown and Lieut. Fred Andrews, M. M. Royal.

During the evening all sat down to a delicious supper prepared as only Mrs. McDonald and her daughter Miss Hazel McDonald can prepare.

When opportunity offered Lieut. Wm. A. McDonald, Rev. R. H. Staver, Dan M. McLeod and others were banded. Before breaking up all joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne."

The happy gathering was then brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

CANNED GOODS

In canned goods there are two kinds of spoilage. The first is called "flat sour" which includes all forms of bacterial growth that develop within the food. The second type of spoilage to guard against is mould, a plant growth that is distinctly different from the bacterial growth. Moulded foods are seldom more than surface affected because air is necessary for its growth but the "flat sour" spoilage means that the entire can must be discarded. Bulletin No. 93 of the Dominion Experimental Farms, "Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables for Home Use" which may be had on application to the Publications Branch Department of Agriculture, Ottawa gives full information on the various methods of canning including old and valuable recipes, as well as new ones which have been found valuable. Canning has become the most popular means of preserving large quantities of fruit and vegetables and since these are plentiful during the summer months and at other times difficult to obtain it is important to preserve quantities during the growing season for use in winter. Moreover the use of an abundant supply of fruit and green vegetables is essential to health at all seasons of the year.

One Consolation

Youths sowing their wild oats nowadays can't mix in so much rye.—Boston Transcript.

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