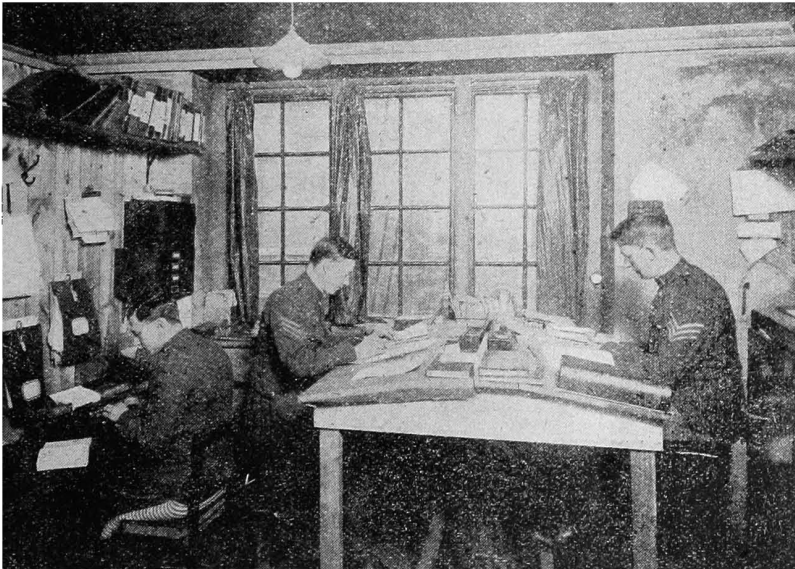


No. 37

JUNE-JULY, 1918



Canadian Red Cross Society



Book-keepers in the Society's Overseas Warehouse,
43 Tooley Street, London, England

TORONTO, CANADA

The Canadian Red Cross Society

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Chairman of War Committee : MR. G. C. CASSELS

War Committee : MR. G. C. CASSELS, MR. F. W. ASHE, MR. C. CAMBIE

Commissioner :

LT.-COL. HARRY BLAYLOCK, C.B.E.

Assistant Commissioners :

LADY DRUMMOND (England)

CAPT. DAVID LAW (France)

Information Bureau : LADY DRUMMOND

Inquiry : MISS ERIKA BOVEY

Parcels : MRS. DAVID FRASER

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CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

Head Office: 56 CHURCH ST., TORONTO

No. 37

BULLETIN

JUNE-JULY, 1918

NOTES

The appointment of Lady Drummond as Assistant Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross Society has been greeted with enthusiasm throughout the country. The splendid organization of the Information Bureau, covering the work of the Canadian Red Cross as directed towards the individual wounded Canadian, is a testimony to the administrative ability of the new Assistant Commissioner, while her deep personal sympathy and desire to serve all Canadians has endeared her to thousands of her countrymen overseas. Although Lady Drummond has chiefly identified herself with the work of the Canadian Red Cross, yet she has held out a helping hand to other good causes, notably the Maple Leaf Clubs, so popular with Canadians on leave. We are convinced that our work is destined to expand and flourish under the capable direction of our new Commissioner and his Assistants. The following letter from Lady Drummond has been received by the Chairman of the Executive :

13th May, 1918.

"I have been much touched by the kind and gracious way in which I have been asked to be Assistant Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross Society in England, and I would ask you to express to the Central Executive my sincere and grateful appreciation of their unanimous desire that I should fill this position and my earnest hope that I may so discharge its duties as to justify their confidence."

HELP TO MILITARY HOSPITALS IN CANADA

The following order, issued from Headquarters of the Militia Department in Ottawa, is included in the Canadian Expeditionary Force Routine Orders under date May 6th, 1918 :—

"524. Supplies to Hospitals from Canadian Red Cross and Other Unofficial Sources.

"With a view to the proper control of supplies in military hospitals, the following instructions as to the obtaining of donations of foodstuffs and delicacies, as well as of other hospital necessities, will be observed.

"1. The Canadian Red Cross Society is to be recognized as the chief source of supply of the articles referred to, outside the official military channels, to the military hospitals throughout Canada. The indents will be made as considered advisable by officers commanding hospitals upon forms provided by the Red Cross Society, which will be forwarded to the Asst. Director of Medical Services of the District, for supervision and control, and by him in due course passed to the Canadian Red Cross authorities. The A.D.M.S. will be responsible for the control of all such demands. Stores of various kinds provided from this source will be accounted for in the usual way through his quartermaster by the officer commanding the hospital receiving them.

"2. Voluntary offers of donations from local societies or organizations other than the Red Cross Societies will be accepted, but must be similarly accounted for and notified to the A.D.M.S. in the District.

"3. All indents upon the Army Service Corps, Ordnance, Engineers or Medical Stores will be checked by the A.D.M.S. in the usual way, having regard to the character and the quantity of supplies being received by the hospitals of his District from the Red Cross Society and other sources above mentioned. Reference : H.Q. 393-8-8."

At the meeting of the Central Council of the Society on May 7th, it was decided to ask each Provincial and District Branch to undertake to supply the military hospitals in their area in accordance with the above army order.

The following is a list of Military Hospitals grouped according to Province or District :—

London, M.D. No. 1.

Military Convalescent Hospital—108 beds.
Military Hospital (about to be constructed)—1000 beds.
Present Military Hospital, Wolsey Barracks—125 beds.

Toronto, M.D. No. 2.

Base Hospital—600 beds.
Exhibition Camp Hospital—200 beds.
Givens St. Convalescent Hospital—200 beds.
Spadina Military Hospital with College St.—453 beds.
Davisville Military Hospital—440 beds.
Brant Military Hospital, Burlington—242 beds.
Dominion Orthopædic Hospital—1,000 beds (Christie St.)
High Park—995 beds.
Long Branch—1,378 beds.
Toronto General Hospital—300 beds.

M.D. No. 3.

Queen's University Military Hospital, Kingston—380 beds.
Ongwanada Military Hospital—750 beds.
Cobourg Military Hospital, Cobourg—450 beds.
Sanford Fleming Convalescent Hospital, Ottawa—80 beds.

Quebec and Montreal, M.D. Nos. 4 and 5.

Drummond Military Hospital, Montreal—171 beds.
Ste. Anne de Bellevue Military Hospital—2,000 beds.
Presbyterian College Hospital—200 beds.
Savard Park Hospital, Quebec—116 beds.
Military Hospital—100 beds.

Nova Scotia, M.D. No. 6.

Cogswell St. Military Hospital—200 beds.
Camp Hill Military Hospital with Pine Hill—1,000 beds.

Prince Edward Island, No. 6.

Prince Edward Island Military Hospital—200 beds.

New Brunswick, M.D. No. 7.

New Brunswick Military Hospital, Fredericton—450 beds.
Military Hospital, St. John—50 beds.

Manitoba, M.D. No. 10.

Manitoba Military Hospital—1,232 beds (Tuxedo).

Victoria, M.D. No. 11.

Esquimault Military Hospital, Esquimault—560 beds.

Qualicum Convalescent Hospital—150 beds.

Vancouver, M.D. No. 11.

Shaughnessy Military Hospital with Vancouver General and Fairmount—643 beds.

Columbia Hospital, New Westminster—300 beds.

Saskatchewan, M.D. No. 12.

Saskatchewan Military Hospital, Moose Jaw—241 beds.

Military Hospital, Regina—350 beds.

Alberta, M.D. No. 13.

Ogden Convalescent Hospital, Calgary—179 beds.

Edmonton Convalescent Hospital, Strathcona Military Hospital—336 beds.

Calgary Military Hospital—1,000 beds.

SAILORS' COMFORTS

The work of supplying comforts to sailors is undertaken by a committee of the Canadian War Contingent Association which works very closely in touch with the C.R.C.S.

The Convener of the Committee is Mrs. W. J. Armitage of Halifax. The comforts are collected at the Red Cross wareroom, Pier No. 2, Halifax, and from there the committee distributes them to ships in dock at Halifax, and has also sent cases to the Navy League in London.

Besides looking after sailors in the Navy, the Committee make a special point of caring for those in the merchant marine. These men are pathetically grateful as it is the first time that help of this sort has been extended to them as well as to their brothers in the Navy.

Some letters received by the Committee, thanking the members of it and those who contribute to their funds and supplies, follow :—

“On behalf of the officers and men of this ship who are the recipients of the comforts contained in the three parcels of socks, mufflers, mittens and shirts received aboard here on the 18th inst., I wish to convey the warmest thanks and gratitude to yourself and the other ladies who have so kindly interested yourselves in our welfare, and to assure you, that the garments will prove more useful owing to the trying weather being presently experienced at sea.

“It may be a source of some gratification and inspiration to tell you that so far as our experience has gone the women of Canada have been the first to extend their thoughts in a tangible form to the men of the merchant service and therefore the gifts are doubly esteemed.

“Again extending our most cordial thanks for your kindness, let me take this opportunity of thanking you directly for the splendid work you are doing for the seamen of the fleets. It is much appreciated, and, speaking for my own crew, the clothes were a God-send.”

“I can assure you that they were greatly appreciated by a great many of the crew as we had it fairly cold on our voyage home, and

as you know a good many sailors are not too well found in good clothing."

From a Commander U.S. Navy

"We, the surviving officers and crew of the wrecked SS. ———, wish to thank you and the other ladies for the very good gifts of clothing you have sent to this vessel for our use. We understand that this is the first ladies' organization to recognize the men of the mercantile marine."

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We draw our readers' attention to the minutes of the 16th meeting of the Central Council of the Society, which will be found on page 20. It was a very representative meeting and also a peculiarly important one with regard to the questions brought up for discussion. Some of these were the new appointments overseas, the working of the War Charities Act, the new arrangements in the Prisoners of War Department, and the extension of the Society's work in Canada.

WINNIPEG CAMPAIGN

The Manitoba Provincial Branch of the Society has just concluded a very successful campaign for funds. As yet we have not heard the final results for the Province, but the city of Winnipeg alone, whose objective was set at \$300,000, and later raised to \$400,000, has collected the splendid sum of \$624,000.

GENERAL TURNER AND THE WAR CONTINGENT ASSOCIATION

Lt.-Gen. Sir R. E. W. Turner, V.C., Commanding the Canadian Forces in the United Kingdom, has written as follows to Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G., Hon. Secretary of the Canadian War Contingent Association :—

"Yesterday, when I had the pleasure of visiting your Association, I was very much impressed with the splendid organization you have for supplying our men at the Front with field comforts. Your filing and packing systems are absolutely splendid, and your means of keeping in touch with the various battalion commanders assures me that at no time is any unit forgotten, be it ever so small. Please accept my appreciation for the energy, patience, and time you have devoted to the Canadian War Contingent Association, to make the lives of our men at the Front more comfortable."

CORRECTION

We regret that in the Annual Report of the Commissioner Overseas, in BULLETIN 35, the Perkins Bull Hospital was inserted by mistake as the I.O.D.E. (Perkins Bull) Hospital. This Hospital is not an I.O.D.E. Hospital and the entire upkeep is provided for by Mr. Perkins Bull.

NEW CANADIAN RED CROSS COMMISSIONER

The following paragraph in reference to our new Commissioner Overseas was found in *Canada*, April 20th :—

At a meeting of the Executive of the Canadian Red Cross Society, held at Toronto on Monday, Lt.-Col. H. W. Blaylock was appointed Chief Commissioner Overseas.

Lt.-Col. Blaylock joined the staff of Col. Hodgetts, C.M.G., the late Commissioner, in November, 1914, and has since 1915 held the rank of Assistant Commissioner with headquarters at Boulogne. He is a native of the Province of Quebec, son of the late Rev. Thomas Blaylock, was educated at Bishops' College, Lennoxville, P.Q., and graduated B.A. at McGill University in 1903, winning the Macdonald Scholarship for the Study of French Law in France. In 1905 he married Agnes, daughter of Dr. James Mills, Dominion Railway Commissioner, and they have resided in England since 1908. Col. Blaylock has been the recipient of the Legion d'Honneur from the French Government, and has been mentioned in despatches by General Haig. He is an Associate of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and has been recently appointed a Commander in this Order of the British Empire.

Capt. David Law, of Montreal, is in temporary charge of the Society's work in France.

THE DOING GOOD SOCIETY—OUR CLUB

[The following verses are written by the little ten-year-old-President of the Doing Good Society in Sherbrooke, Que., Miss Josepha B. MacKinnon. This Society recently earned enough money to pay for a life membership in the Canadian Red Cross Society for Miss Beckett, the oldest and one of the most faithful workers in the Sherbrooke Local Branch.]

We girls of the D.G.S. one and all
Do good deeds, kind deeds, big ones and small,
We to a soldier have sent a box
I guess everything was in it except a pair of socks.

You see none of us could knit,
Scarfs, socks or even a mitt,
So we just did the best we could
And don't you think that was just as good ?

We also sent him two nice letters,
For you know we are the debtors ;
We pray to God to give them strength—
And I know He will at length.

We are giving this concert to help the fight,
Don't you think that we are right ?
The dish is waiting on the stand
So help with your money to guard our fair land.

—Josepha B. MacKinnon.

WHAT THE C.R.C.S. IS DOING FOR NURSING SISTERS

The Canadian Red Cross has established two Nurses' Rest Homes, one in England, the report of which for March will be found on page 30.

The Society has also lately opened a Rest House for Nurses in Boulogne, in reference to which the Assistant Commissioner for France wrote on February 9th :—

“For some long time past nursing sisters passing through this base (Boulogne) have found great difficulty in getting suitable accommodation for the one or two nights that they may be compelled to stay here, either on their way to or from leave or whilst awaiting orders. They arrive late at night or in the early hours of the morning, often tired out, or wet through, at hotels which are dirty, over-crowded, and dear.

Although premises are almost unobtainable here, we have been fortunate enough to secure a large, furnished hotel within easy distance of stations and quay, capable of accommodating some 60 sisters, in addition to some of our own women staff (drivers, etc.). The rental is \$800 per month. It will be known as the “Nursing Sisters’ Rest House” and will be open equally to *all* sisters working with the B.E.F.—Imperials, Canadians, Australians, Americans, etc. It will be run with a staff of V.A.D. workers, under the management of Mrs. Gordon Brown (of Ottawa), who has admirably conducted a small hostel for our workers here for the last ten months.

With the help of the Government, in allowing us to draw rations on repayment, it is hoped to provide a comfortable resting place with good food at a nominal charge to cover expenses, exclusive of the rent. It is expected that a charge of \$1.00 will cover dinner, bed, breakfast and bath. We are taking possession of the hotel within a few days and, after cleaning and renovating, it should be ready for occupation in two or three weeks.”

REVELSTOKE, B.C.

Besides the usual Red Cross contributions which have been spent in material, the Revelstoke Branch has raised \$465 during two and a half months, which it has been able to send to Headquarters; \$100.00 of this was sent to the Prisoners of War Fund, to which fund this Branch also contributes \$10.00 monthly.

BELLEVILLE CHEESE BOARD BRANCH

This Belleville Branch reports eighteen new societies to be working as its auxiliaries during the last year. The list of goods sent out by this Branch is a very long one, and includes 3,452 garments, of which 1,222 were pyjamas and 1,442 were shirts. The other items included 470 sheets, 1,908 pillowcases, 5,400 towels, 211 feather pillows and three wheeled chairs. The value of the eleven shipments made was \$10,431.00.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES

In future no case or package weighing over 25 lbs. must be sent by express. All cases over this weight should be forwarded by freight. Send all shipments collect rather than prepaid and thus avoid the necessity of waiting while claims are made for refunds.

A PRESENT FROM BRAZIL

The Toronto Branch of the Society has received \$5,000 from the British War Work Depôt, Sao Paulo, Brazil, for the benefit of wounded Canadian soldiers.

This sum was obtained as the result of a sale of work, a moving-picture show, and card party which was held at the residence of Mr. D. Mulqueen.

Toronto, Ottawa, Quebec, Montreal and Winnipeg were each represented by a booth at the sale, and the Sao Paulo Tramway, Light and Power Co. provided music for the occasion.

This donation is being used for the equipment of the new Officers' Convalescent Home at Bexhill. In this connection Col. Blaylock writes as follows to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, May 28th :

"The following cable received from you yesterday :

'Committee approve expenditure Two Thousand Pounds Bexhill Convalescent Home, also One Thousand Pounds Sao Paulo. Donation as suggested by you.'

"Immediately upon receipt of this cablegram I went to see General Turner and told him of your Committee's generosity in this matter : he was most grateful, and we are immediately undertaking the equipment of the place. It is a delightful old-fashioned building on the heights of Bexhill-on-Sea, but which was most dreary, having nothing in it but ordinary ordnance issue. We shall now be able to make it an attractive Home to men who are getting physically fit to re-join their units."

FOR THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT ENDOWMENT FUND

The Linden Mennonite Church has raised \$505 for the Red Cross and has forwarded the amount through the Alberta Branch of the Society, with the request that it be used for some fund not directly connected with the War. The donation has been added to the Duchess of Connaught Canadian Red Cross Endowment Fund.

SUMMER NUMBERS

During the summer we propose to publish only two numbers of the BULLETIN. This month's BULLETIN is dated June-July, and the next one, which will not appear till early in September, will be dated August-September.

PRISONERS OF WAR AND THE BRITISH RED CROSS

The article reprinted below is from *The Times* of Wednesday, April the 3rd, and gives an interesting account of the provision made by the Joint Committee of the Red Cross and St. John of Jerusalem for the welfare of British Prisoners of War, both military and naval.

Under the Central Committee appointed by the Joint Committee to systematize the care of British Prisoners, the Canadian Red Cross Society is the authorized "care committee" or agency through which food and clothing reaches prisoners belonging to Canadian units. Canadians belonging to Imperial Units come under the jurisdiction

of the special care committee of those units, or directly under the charge of the Central Prisoners of War Committee, except by special arrangement to the contrary.

The whole of the work is financed by (a) Funds specially designated and sent in to the various care committees (of which the Canadian Red Cross is reckoned as one) or the Central Care Committee ; (b) the General Funds of the Joint Committee of the British Red Cross Society and St. John of Jerusalem, behind which is the great *Times* Red Cross Fund.

The Canadian Red Cross Society has guaranteed to relieve the Central Care Committee of all expense connected with prisoners from Canadian units, and is entrusted with the duty of supplying their needs and of issuing permits and coupons according to the regulations laid down by the Central Care Committee.

The generosity with which funds for this purpose have been subscribed by the Canadian people entirely justifies this guarantee of the Canadian Red Cross Society :

PARCELS FOR PRISONERS

[In reading this article it must be remembered that it was written for readers in Great Britain and therefore, in some respects, it does not apply to Canadian conditions.—Ed]

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT)

Some 15 months ago the Central Prisoners of War Committee—a branch of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John—were entrusted by the Government with the task of organizing the dispatch of parcels to British prisoners of war in enemy countries.

It had long been known that if supplies of food were not sent to prisoners from home, starvation would be added to the inevitable miseries of captivity. This had only to be known, and in all parts of Great Britain men and women had set themselves to make certain that the supply of parcels should not fail through lack of money or for want of voluntary labor. It was a splendid impulse and it had magnificent results, but as time went on inevitable defects began to appear. Enthusiasm unregulated tends to defeat its own ends. What was needed was some central organization to supervise the whole work of sending parcels to prisoners. During the summer of 1916 the need was met by the creation of the Central Prisoners of War Committee, and the first parcels were dispatched on December 1 of that year. It is now possible to judge the working of the scheme as a whole and to form a fair estimate of its success.

EARLY DIFFICULTIES

At first the difficulties of the Central Committee were great. The problem with which they had to deal was a problem new in war. So long as parcels were sent by individuals and by various unrelated associations, overlapping and other defects were certain. They appeared. A census of parcels sent to prisoners in enemy countries was taken by the Post Office authorities in the summer of 1916. It showed that, while many prisoners were receiving more than one parcel at a time, a large percentage were getting none. Unsuitable food, often very badly packed, was being sent in numerous cases.

Hundreds of associations sending parcels to prisoners of war had been formed all over the country by the friends of prisoners of the locality, and side by side with these were the Regimental Care Committees, whose work, organized on a regimental basis, often covered ground partly occupied by these associations. The individual care of prisoners, too, had to be curtailed and brought into line with some general scheme. Clearly, regulation and organization were necessary, and necessary at once. It was the task of the Committee to supply both.

THE NEW SYSTEM

The system instituted by the Central Committee aims at one thing : the supply to every British prisoner of war in enemy countries—military or civil—of a full ration of food, of enough clothing, and of as many comforts as possible. The Government very naturally forbid the dispatch of certain articles to prisoners and insist that the regulations of the Censorship shall be observed not only by the Central Committee itself but by all the Associations working with the Committee. These requirements and limitations involve an immense complexity of work, the handling of large quantities of money and of vast amounts of supplies of all kinds, a complex and increasing correspondence, the keeping of elaborate records, which must daily be checked and be brought up to date. The whole organization is housed at 4 Thurloe-place, in a great building which was fortunately available when the Committee began the work.

This is the centre. But much of the work is done by Regimental Care Committees and authorized Associations all over the country. They have the authority of the Committee to supervise the dispatch of parcels and to collect subscriptions, with all the work incidental to these two duties. Some of them pack parcels as well, but some cannot do this. In these cases the packing is done either by the Central Committee at 4 Thurloe-place, or by what are called "Packing Associations." Some Regimental Care Committees leave everything connected with the packing and dispatching of parcels to the Central Committee. There are over 70 of these. More than 140 Regimental Care Committees, however, pack parcels, or make their own arrangements with an authorized Association or shop. The central principle of the whole system is that no parcel can be packed and sent except by and through the Central Committee, or a Care Committee Association, or shop authorized by it. Thus record can be kept, information about prisoners can be interchanged, uniformity of the contents of parcels is secured as far as possible, overlapping is avoided, and the ideal—which would ensure parcels reaching each prisoner as soon as possible after his capture and regularly afterwards—is kept constantly in view.

At first the Committee controlled the dispatch of parcels to N.C.O.'s and men only, as well as to civilians interned in enemy countries. But from October 1, 1917, their control was extended to parcels for officers, and they now pack and send parcels to some 600 officers. Individuals can still send parcels to officers or can employ shops, but the number of parcels that can be sent is limited by the issue of a certain number of coupons in the month, one of which the officer's friends must attach to each parcel. Control is exercised by the Officers' Record Branch of the Central Committee.

As the difficulty of getting supplies increases it is found that the next of kin are more and more inclined to entrust the work of sending parcels to the Committee.

A HUGE BUSINESS

Apart from officers' parcels, the work of the Committee in packing and sending parcels to N.C.O.'s, men, and civilians has grown to a huge business. Three times in a fortnight a parcel weighing 10 lb. when packed is sent direct from 4 Thurloe-place, to about 14,000 men. Parcels of clothing are sent, too, though the number of these parcels is very much smaller, for only a limited quantity of clothing can be sent to each man at definite intervals, and the work of sending parcels of clothing can be done much more easily by Care Committees and Local Associations than is possible with food parcels. Bread is sent in addition to the three food parcels per fortnight. Berne used to be the main centre for the dispatch of bread to prisoners in Germany, and there much excellent work is still being done. Originally, the Committee had planned a scheme for supplementing the supply of bread parcels from Berne by the establishment of a new *dépôt* at Copenhagen. The difficulties, however, proved insurmountable, and the bureau was closed till it was reopened in October, 1917, under new conditions. The whole system of bread supply is now supervised from 4 Thurloe-place. Over 2,000 tons of the best white flour have been obtained recently from the United States and from Canada. The reports that come in from prisoners about supplies of bread are very favorable. The bread arrives in excellent condition; the prisoners are enthusiastic about its quality; and the average of parcels reaching their destination is very high.

A casual thought about parcels for prisoners does not suggest any need for much organization or labor. The best way to realize what is involved in the supply, packing, and dispatch of 14,000 parcels to N.C.O.'s, men, and civilians, and 600 to officers three times a fortnight—to say nothing of supplies of bread, clothing, comforts, and money—is to analyse the processes that have to be gone through before a single parcel can reach a prisoner. First, the food has to be obtained. It must be special food, carefully selected for high nourishment value combined with small bulk. In quantity it must comply absolutely with a scale fixed upon the best expert advice and rigidly enforced. In kind it is limited to certain articles. Each article must be put up in a way which ensures preservation during transport. When the various articles have been collected, they have to be packed so that they will travel well. This done, the parcel has to be labelled legibly so that it will reach its destination. If it is acknowledged, the acknowledgment must be recorded, and any change of camp notified by the addressee must be entered up. Meanwhile, notifications of changes in the prisoners' camps from other sources must be analysed, and their contents must be noted with careful reference to the individual prisoner to whom this particular parcel has been sent. But while all this is being done, extreme care has to be taken that the parcel is not lost or tampered with in transit. It must go straight from the hands of the labelling staff to the care of the British Post Office, and by the British Post Office it must be handed over to the Postal authorities of the enemy Government which has the prisoner in charge, or, if direct communi-

cation is not possible, to some neutral Government which has undertaken the duty of transport.

All these processes—and many incidental to them (finance, for instance) which will be mentioned later—have to be gone through before a single parcel can reach a single prisoner of war in any enemy country. Multiply all this by something like 15,000, and repeat the total three times a fortnight ; add the work involved in sending bread, special comforts, and money ; the whole result will give some idea of the work that the Central Committee is doing at 4 Thurloe-place.

WILLING LABOR

The mere thought of it all is an inspiration, especially when it is remembered that on this work the health and comfort of those who have fought for us and have fallen into enemy hands so largely depend. It is not a bit too much to say that this thought lives in the great building at 4 Thurloe-place—a rambling, crescent-shaped structure with large basements and ample accommodation for many departments above. The basements themselves are a sight to be remembered. Here are masses of stores, piled high to the roof and continually renewed as they are sent to the packers to be used for the parcels. These stocks, large as they are, are only a part of what the Committee have in hand ; for buying is in bulk, and the work of buying is done by an expert once in the employ of a large London provision firm.

Any one who wants to see what women can do in war time may well visit 4 Thurloe-place. Many of the departments are staffed throughout by women. Some have men at the head ; and some, particularly the Finance Department, employ men as well as women. But most are supervised, as they are staffed, by women ; and the chiefs of these departments are as competent as they are quiet and businesslike—enthusiastic in their work, eager to explain what is being done in their departments, and with all the complicated details of the work strikingly at command.

The basements, however, are not their place. Women can do much, but they cannot stack heavy cases of supplies in piles to the ceiling, or open the cases, or move their contents in bulk. That is work for men, and at 4 Thurloe-place it is done by paid labor specially detailed for this duty. Without these men the work could not go on. Their services are invaluable to the Committee. They have saved much expense in adapting the basements for storing supplies, and the amount of heavy labor that they get through daily is the best testimony to their zeal and capacity.

PACKING AND DISPATCH

In the packing department men work side by side with women. The parcels are packed in stout cardboard cases, with a filling of paper shaving to keep all secure, and are bound with strong string. This packing is hard, monotonous work, done at practised speed, as it must be done if it is to be got through in time. That it is efficient is shown by parcels which occasionally come back. They bear the marks of the double journey, but are quite intact, with their contents in excellent condition. These are parcels sent to men who have died or have escaped, and they are not many in number. Whether the cause of their return is pathetic or happy, they are a good testimonial

to the work of the packing department. Each parcel has on it a duplicate address. One is printed by the addressograph on the special Red Cross label without which no parcel can be dispatched. Occasionally the printing is faint. Risk of the parcel going astray through this cause is guarded against by the writing of the address on the parcel itself in a bold and legible hand.

NEWLY-CAPTURED PRISONERS

Such is the actual machinery for packing and dispatching parcels. It would, however, be clogged at once but for the work of other departments. They are very many in number, too many to mention individually; but two are specially important—those of Records and Finance. These two are closely connected. The business of the record department is to collect and file every possible item of information, connected with foodstuffs or clothing, about all British prisoners of war in enemy countries. The system is elaborate and works with great efficiency. The proportion of parcels that reach their destination is very high—never less than 80 per cent and usually considerably above that percentage. This is the best test of the efficiency of the record system.

One of the chief difficulties of the Committee is communication with prisoners newly captured. This is met by the provision at all the main camps in Germany of supplies in bulk to bridge the interval until the prisoner can get parcels sent to him by name. Special "first capture parcels" are kept in stock, too, at 4 Thurloe-place. Till recently these were kept at Copenhagen. They are sent off as soon as a post-card is received from a newly-captured prisoner. Stocks of these post-cards have been provided at the headquarters of each camp.

THE MONEY SIDE

And of course all this work depends on the provision of ample funds. Regimental Care Committees and authorized Associations do much to supply their own needs in this way. When they fail to raise all the money they require the Central Committee make up what is needed. The Central Committee themselves receive large sums in subscriptions sent direct to the finance department. Otherwise, they are financed by the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross and the Order of St. John. At the back of it all is *The Times* Fund. Letters pour into the finance department at 4 Thurloe-place. It keeps accounts with over 6,000 prisoners and with 6,000 subscribers—a number sure to be increased greatly by recent events. It deals with an average of 500 to 600 communications daily. The average daily expenditure administered by the finance department is between £3,000 and £4,000. Stocks are in hand to the value of about £120,000, and from these the packing department is supplied. The stores department also furnished the contents of parcels to other associations working under the general scheme for over 12,000 prisoners.

To this pitch has the organization under the Central Committee developed since December 1, 1916. Doubtless there are still weak spots, but the whole effect of a detailed examination of the work done at 4 Thurloe-place is of that efficiency which is the reward of unremitting endeavor. Beyond doubt, the creation of the Committee has been justified by results. What results of this kind mean should

be realized by the nation. They mean that every British prisoner of war and interned civilian who can be reached by parcels—some, in Bulgaria particularly, and in Turkey, it is impossible to reach at times—is being supplied with food, clothing, and comforts sufficient to keep him alive and in as good shape as may be till the day of his release comes. For many the days of captivity have just begun. For all that day may still be distant. The Central Committee need make no other claim than that on the liberality of the country.

CANADA

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS, Nos. 151-152-153

HELD ON APRIL 15TH, MAY 6TH AND MAY 21ST.

Present : Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall (Chairman), Mr. K. J. Dunstan, Miss G. Brock, Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard, Mr. W. R. Miller, Mr. Featherstone Osler, K.C., Mr. F. Gordon Osler, Mrs. H. P. Plumptre, Mr. J. T. Small, K.C., Col. A. E. Gooderham, and Mr. B. S. Mac-Innes.

Mr. R. B. Bennett of Alberta was present at the 152nd meeting by invitation of the Committee.

COMMISSION OVERSEAS

The Committee decided to appoint Lieut.-Col. H. W. Blaylock Commissioner Overseas, and the following cables were accordingly drafted and despatched :—

“BLAYLOCK, London.

TORONTO, April 15th.

At meeting of the Executive held to-day you were appointed Chief Commissioner Overseas. Your Commission will be forwarded later. Please confer with War Committee and cable us recommendations as to assistants.

(Signed) MARSHALL.”

“BLAYLOCK, London.

TORONTO, April 15th.

Staff at Executive Offices congratulate you upon your appointment to-day and wish you continued success in your work.

(Signed) MARSHALL.”

The following cables from Col. Blaylock were read :

SUPPLIES AT THE FRONT

BOULOGNESMERE, April 4th.

“Everything possible being done for sick and wounded. Demand very heavy but supplies so far adequate. At moment not an unfilled request on Society from front line to base.

(Signed) BLAYLOCK.”

OFFICERS' VERANDAH WARD

LONDON, April 11th.

“Committee recommend approval request from one Canadian General France for erection verandah Officers' Ward. Estimated cost four hundred pounds.

(Signed) BLAYLOCK.”

Expenditure for the erection of this ward was approved.

AMERICAN RED CROSS GIFT

The Chairman submitted a letter from the Chairman of the War Council of the American National Red Cross and the accompanying resolution with reference to their gift of \$500,000 to the Canadian Red Cross, and a copy of his letter of acknowledgment. [See page 5, BULLETIN 36.]

V.A.D'S.

The following copy of cable was submitted :—

From the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, to the Duchess of Devonshire.

"LONDON, APRIL 9TH.

Delighted with V.A.D. members from Canada. Those who have arrived already posted. Please let us have another hundred. Am writing.

(Signed) ARTHUR STANLEY."

WORK FOR MEN IN HOSPITAL

Letter from Colonel Hodgetts of March 25th, recommending an appropriation of £1,000 to purchase materials for fancy work, etc., for men in hospital was read. The Committee approved this expenditure and the chairman was authorized to issue a credit note for that amount.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR ENGLAND

After full discussion it was moved by Col. A. E. Gooderham, seconded by Mr. K. J. Dunstan and carried unanimously, that Lady Drummond be appointed Assistant Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross Society in England.

BRITISH RED CROSS AND OTHER APPEALS

Cables to and from Sir R. Hudson, dated April 15th and May 1st, with reference to the British Red Cross and Navy League appeals, and from Sir Roper Parkington, dated April 15th, with reference to an appeal from Montenegro, and also letter from Mr. D. H. Illingworth of March 20th, with reference to an appeal for the French Red Cross were read.

The Chairman reported that he had remitted \$10,000 to the Montenegrin Relief Fund, being balance of the \$20,000 authorized on January 2nd.

The question of the numerous appeals being made was thoroughly discussed. The Chairman suggested that it might be preferable to make one appeal for all, and to make allotments to the various funds out of the amount subscribed, and he submitted a tentative memorandum of suggested percentages to be allotted. The Committee approved the idea and requested the Chairman to enquire into the possibility of such an arrangement. The whole question of these appeals would be submitted to the meeting of the Central Council to be held next day.

LONDON ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS

A letter dated March 28th from Colonel Hodgetts, stating that the Audited accounts for 1917 were being forwarded, and a cable from Colonel Blaylock, dated April 20th, stating that the accounts

had been lost by enemy action and that duplicates were being mailed, were read.

It was decided that a resolution thanking Messrs. Marwick, Mitchell & Co., for their services as Honorary Auditors, should be forwarded to them as suggested by Colonel Hodgetts.

AMERICAN WOUNDED

The following cable from Col. Blaylock was read :—

BOULOGNESMER, April 18, 1918.

“Please inform Washington everything possible being done by our Society for American wounded in Canadian Hospitals.

(Signed) BLAYLOCK.”

FREE CARRIAGE OF GOODS

A letter from the Secretary of the Canadian Railway Board, dated May 2nd, stating that the railways had been authorized to continue to handle goods on account of the Society free of charge as heretofore, was read.

INVENTORY OF SOCIETY'S PROPERTY

The Chairman was requested to ask the Commissioner to furnish an inventory of the Society's property overseas.

PRISONERS OF WAR ADOPTION LISTS

The following cable from the Prisoners of War Department was read :—

LONDON, April 20, 1918.

“Adoption lists for Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and First Central Ontario Regiments posted this week.

(Signed) BULKELEY.”

SUPPLIES AND SOCKS

A letter, dated April 18th, from Colonel Blaylock with reference to the quantity of socks and other supplies likely to be required, was read. Mrs. Plumptre stated that she had heard from Mr. Colmer of the Canadian War Contingent Association, that the supply of socks for the trenches should not be diminished.

ONTARIO SOCK FUND

The Chairman reported that he had arranged with Miss Reid to supply the Ontario Sock Fund with an average quantity of not less than 500 lbs. of yarn weekly, and submitted a printed statement of the work already done by the organization.

BASEBALL SETS

The Chairman submitted an estimate from the Harold A. Wilson Co., amounting to about \$2,500.00, for baseball outfits applied for by Colonel Blaylock in his letter of April 10th. This expenditure was approved and authorized.

BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY

The Hon. Solicitor reported that he had concluded the sale for \$3,000, of the farm in Saskatchewan bequeathed to the Society by the late Private Maurice Francis and handed in cheque for the first

payment, \$260.00, and the agreement of sale in duplicate for the Society's signature.

CANADIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

In connection with the minutes of the previous meeting the Chairman stated that he had written to Doctor C. R. Dickson that he would be glad to act as representative of the Society on his Board. It was then moved by Mr. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by Mr. Featherston Osler, and carried, that, in accordance with Doctor C. R. Dickson's request, that an officer of the Canadian Red Cross Society be appointed to represent it on the Board of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall be appointed to represent the Society in that capacity.

INVENTORY OF THE SOCIETY'S PROPERTY

With regard to the proposed inventory of the Society's property overseas, it was suggested that a similar inventory of the Society's property in Canada should also be kept, and the Hon. Solicitor was requested to draft a form of agreement between the Society and the Department of Militia and Defence regarding the Society's ownership in any buildings or other properties provided in connection with the Military Hospitals, etc.

The Chairman also reported his visit last week to Montreal where he had inspected the Society's new warehouse and expressed his satisfaction with the conditions he found there.

MARWICK, MITCHELL AND COMPANY

It was moved by Mr. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by Miss G. Brock, and carried unanimously :

"That the cordial thanks and appreciation of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Red Cross Society be conveyed to Messrs. Marwick, Mitchell and Company, for their valuable and efficient services so generously afforded in the capacity of Honorary Auditors of the overseas accounts of the Society since the commencement of the War. The Executive fully appreciate the reasons, due to war conditions, for Messrs. Marwick, Mitchell and Company finding themselves unable to continue their gratuitous services."

The following cables from the Commissioner were read :

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

LONDON, May 12th.

"Lady Drummond has accepted position Assistant Commissioner, England. Law has been appointed France. BLAYLOCK."

OFFICERS' HOSPITAL, LONDON

LONDON, May 9th.

We have request from Canadian Medical Service to provide Officers' Hospital one hundred and fifty beds in London, to be known as Canadian Red Cross Officers' Hospital. Can secure suitable hotel capable two hundred beds near Hyde Park. Our liability for rent and taxes about ten thousand pounds per annum. For extra equipment operating rooms, installation, etc., about twenty thousand

pounds. Medical service will maintain and provide all other charges. This might take place of forty-five thousand pounds. See paragraph 230 Committee Minutes. Committee recommends. Please cable your views. BLAYLOCK."

After full discussion it was felt that in view of the large expenditure required the provision of this Hospital should not be undertaken without fuller information, and the Chairman was requested to cable the Commissioner that the matter had better be held over pending his visit to England.

OFFICERS' CASUALTY DEPÔT, BEXHILL

The Chairman having enquired from the Commissioner in what specific way a contribution of one thousand pounds could be expended, had received the following reply :

LONDON, May 19th.

"Your letter 3rd ; suggest if you approve that thousand pounds be spent on furnishing living rooms Officers' Casualty Company, Bexhill, and that tablet be placed stating this done by donation San Paulo. BLAYLOCK."

and a further cable as follows :

LONDON, May 17th.

"Authorities have taken Manor House, Bexhill, as Officers' Casualty Depôt, one hundred beds. All officers after discharge from Hospital will go there for six weeks' hardening before rejoining unit. General Turner asks for our assistance. It is recommended by Committee that we equip throughout. Probable cost not more than two thousand pounds. BLAYLOCK."

The expenditures were approved and confirmed, and the Chairman authorized to act.

OVERSEAS VISIT

The Chairman reported that Mr. Dunstan would be able to accompany him on his trip overseas, and that he was in communication with Hon. R. S. Lake about a representative from the West. He was also arranging with the Minister of Militia as to transport, etc., and hoped they would be able to leave early in June. The Committee decided that as the visit was on the Society's business it was only right that the expenses of the members in connection with it should be paid by the Society. A credit for this purpose would be arranged at a subsequent meeting.

"FRANCE'S DAY"

The letter from Mr. D. H. Illingworth of the French Red Cross, dated March 20th, with reference to a further appeal in Canada this year, was again considered. The Committee approved of the appeal to be made through the Society's Branches in the same manner as last year on or about July 14th, and the Chairman was authorized to issue a circular accordingly. Mr. B. S. MacInnes was again appointed to act as Hon. Treasurer of the Fund with authority to open an account as before with the Royal Bank.

SPHAGNUM MOSS

Mrs. Plumptre submitted report of the meeting of the Sphagnum Moss Committee of May the 3rd, and report on conclusions reached on the subject and copy of letter from Doctor Porter, dated May 16th, to Mr. W. R. Miller, giving report on his visit to the Maritime Provinces. Mrs. Plumptre was requested to congratulate Doctor Porter on the results of his work.

CAR FOR MEDICAL OFFICER

A request from Lt.-Col. E. S. Ryerson, in his letter of May the 11th for a runabout car for the use of the Military Medical Officers for visiting soldiers at their homes in Toronto, was considered. The Chairman was requested to obtain Col. Bickford's recommendation and if favourable he was authorized to obtain and loan a car for this purpose.

OVERSEAS ACCOUNTS

The Chairman reported the receipt from London of the audited overseas accounts for the year 1917. These had been handed to Messrs. Robertson, Robinson and Company for examination and report.

ONTARIO SOCK FUND

A grant of \$100, on May 9th, to the Ontario Sock Fund, to enable them to pay express charges on their shipments was approved and confirmed.

WAR CHARITIES ACT

Mrs. Plumptre submitted the following telegrams, and also letter from Mrs. William Dennis, of May 16th, with reference to the difficulties caused by the Act :

TORONTO, May 20th.

"HON. MARTIN BURRELL, Secretary of State, Ottawa, Ont.

Red Cross Executive meeting to-morrow. In reference my letter May 10th, please wire what action is being taken.

A. M. PLUMPTRE."

"MRS. PLUMPTRE, Toronto.

OTTAWA, May 20th.

Your wire. No amendment to Act necessary, nor could any fresh legislation be brought down this session. If amendments to regulations are necessary this could be done without special legislation. Will give consideration to any difficulties presented.

M. BURRELL."

As the Parliamentary Session was just closing it was decided that nothing further with regard to the amendment of the Act could be done at present.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING, No. 16, HELD ON MAY 7TH, 1918.

Present : H.E. The Governor-General, Patron of the Society ; H.E. The Duchess of Devonshire, President ; Mr. C. B. Allan (New Brunswick), Mr. R. B. Bennett, K.C. (Alberta), Mr. K. J. Dunstan

(Toronto), Mrs. A. E. Gooderham (Toronto), His Honour Sir John S. Hendrie (Ontario), His Honour R. S. Lake (Saskatchewan), Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard (St. Catharines), Col. J. Bayne MacLean (Toronto), Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall (Toronto), Mr. W. R. Miller (Quebec Prov.), Mrs. R. C. Osborne (Manitoba), Mr. Featherston Osler, K.C. (Toronto), Mr. F. Gordon Osler (Toronto), Mrs. H. P. Plump-tre (Toronto), Col. W. N. Ponton, R.O. (Belleville, Ont.), His Honour Judge R. Rimmer (Sask.), Dr. J. W. Robertson, C.M.G. (Ont.), Mrs. Colin Sewell (Quebec), Mr. J. T. Small, K.C. (Toronto), Mrs. Ernest Stuart (Montreal), and Mr. B. S. MacInnes (Toronto).

Mrs. George Brown, representing Lady Beck (London), also attended.

At the request of Her Excellency, the President, Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall, took the chair. Mr. B. S. MacInnes, Clerk of the Council, acted as secretary.

The secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. J. T. Small and carried unanimously, that the minutes of the previous meeting be taken as read.

COMMISSIONER OVERSEAS AND ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

The Chairman reported that Col. C. A. Hodgetts, the Society's Commissioner Overseas, had, on April 1st, cabled his resignation, which had been accepted by the Executive Committee at their meeting held on April 2nd, and outlined the reasons which had led to his resignation. He also reported the resignation of Lt.-Col. Claude Bryan, Assistant Commissioner in England. The action taken by the Executive in appointing Lt.-Col. H. W. Blaylock as Commissioner Overseas in place of Colonel Hodgetts, Lady Drummond as Assistant Commissioner in England, and Captain David Law as Assistant Commissioner in France, conditional on the approval of the Commissioner and the London War Committee, and on Captain Law's willingness to accept the position. It was moved by His Honour R. S. Lake, seconded by Dr. J. W. Robertson, and carried unanimously : "That the appointments as made by the Executive Committee of Lt.-Col. H. W. Blaylock as Commissioner Overseas of the Canadian Red Cross Society ; of Lady Drummond as Assistant Commissioner in England, and of Capt. David Law, conditionally, as Assistant Commissioner in France, be approved and endorsed."

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The following were appointed a Committee to draft resolutions in connection with various matters on the Agenda, viz :

His Honour R. S. Lake, Col. W. N. Ponton, Mr. J. T. Small.

AMERICAN RED CROSS GIFT

The Chairman reported the generous gift to the Society of the sum of \$500,000 by the American Red Cross Society, and the following resolution was passed :

"That the Central Council of the Canadian Red Cross Society desire to record and express their most grateful appreciation of the splendid gift of \$500,000 made by the American Red Cross to this Society. This practical co-operation at home is a symbol of the vital

co-operation and good comradeship of our sons and brothers overseas, and the spontaneous spirit of the gift will tend still further to strengthen and cement the ties that bind Canadians to their kinsmen, neighbours, friends and allies of the United States, so many of whose citizens fighting in Canadian battalions for the defence and preservation of democracy, have already made the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of France and Flanders."

EXTENSION OF WORK IN CANADA

The Secretary read letters from Surgeon-General J. T. Fotheringham of April 30th, and from Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard of May 4th, with reference to the provision by the Society of Red Cross cottages and rooms as social centres in connection with Military Hospitals in Canada, under the Army Medical Corps, at an estimated cost for building and equipment of approximately \$200,000. The question, having been fully discussed, it was moved by Dr. J. W. Robertson, seconded by His Honour Judge R. Rimmer, and carried unanimously:

"That the Central Council of the Canadian Red Cross Society approves of the proposal for providing, operating and maintaining Red Cross cottages in connection with the Military Hospitals in Canada, and such other work in connection therewith as may be mutually arranged between the Department of Militia and Defence and the Society."

It was also moved by Mr. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by Mr. R. B. Bennett, and carried:

"That the plans for these Red Cross cottages be submitted to the following committee of ladies for their recommendations, namely: Her Excellency the Duchess of Devonshire, Lady Borden and Mrs. Plumptre, with the co-operation of Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard."

Mrs. Plumptre submitted a memorandum with regard to the co-operation of the Society with the Department of Militia and Defence, stating that the Department intended to utilize the Society as the chief channel for providing comforts and voluntary assistance to the Military Hospitals in Canada, and that it was the desire of the Department to deal only with the Head Office of the Society, to which all proposals from Provincial or other Branches in this connection should be submitted—with the exception of such working details as might be arranged locally.

(See note, Help to Military Hospitals—Page 3.)

Regarding the suggestion as to the appointment of a Canadian Red Cross Commissioner for Canada to deal with the co-ordination of the work of the Society with the Department, the opinion was expressed that the utility of such an appointment would depend on the standing of the man chosen.

APPEALS

A letter from Sir Robert Hudson was read and the following resolution was passed:

"That in the event of a request to the Canadian Red Cross Society being made by the British Red Cross Society, as forecasted in the cable from Sir Robert Hudson of May 1st, an appeal be

again made to the Canadian public, it be accepted, the details of the arrangements to be left in the hands of the Canadian Red Cross Society."

COMMISSIONER A. B. PERRY'S RESIGNATION

The Secretary read a letter, dated April 18th, from Commissioner A. B. Perry, tendering his resignation as vice-president of the Saskatchewan Provincial Branch and as Provincial Representative on the Council, as he expected to be leaving the Province.

His Honour R. S. Lake stated that the Saskatchewan Provincial Branch desired to retain Commissioner Perry as their representative and had written him to that effect, but had not yet received his reply.

It was therefore moved by Mr. R. B. Bennett, seconded by Mr. W. R. Miller, and carried :

"That in view of the statement made by His Honour R. S. Lake, no action be taken as to Commissioner Perry's resignation."

WAR CHARITIES ACT

Mrs. Plumptre read a report on her several interviews and correspondence with Mr. Mulvey, Under-Secretary of State, with reference to the difficulties arising in connection with the operation of the War Charities Act. Mr. Small pointed out that the fact of incorporation and registration under the Act afforded no real protection from fraud, and Mr. Dunstan emphasized the impracticability of the Act, and referred to a general conference of representatives of war charities summoned in Toronto at Mr. Mulvey's request to discuss the operation of the Act, and read a memorandum drawn up by a committee appointed at that conference recommending certain amendments to the Act.

It was moved by Mr. R. B. Bennett, seconded by His Honour R. S. Lake, and carried :

"That the conclusions arrived at by the special committee be approved, and that a committee consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Small, Mr. Dunstan and Mrs. Plumptre, be authorized and empowered to present the matter to the Government, and to make such other arrangements as may be necessary if the conclusions arrived at cannot be complied with."

PURCHASING BOARD AND ALLOCATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. M. F. Christie, Chairman of the Executive of the Manitoba Branch, suggesting the creation of a Central Purchasing Board to purchase supplies for the Branches ; and also the question of allocating and crediting Provincial Branches with proportions of contributions made by corporations, etc., doing business in the various provinces.

With reference to the latter question the Chairman was requested to reply that it was not possible to make any such allocation of contributions.

The question of a Central Purchasing Board and the difficulties in connection with establishing one were fully discussed. The diffi-

culties as regards rising prices and increasing scarcity of supplies were fully realized. The Chairman was requested to write to the various Provincial Branches asking them to report on the subject, stating the prices paid by them for various supplies purchased.

PUBLICITY

A letter from Mr. D. H. McDonald, of April 16th, was submitted, suggesting the advisability of the giving fuller publicity and information regarding the objects and work of the Society.

Her Excellency the President thought that it might be advisable and wise to publish some of the Society's literature in French as well as English.

It was suggested that more information might be circulated through the Associated Press.

The Chairman undertook to look into the question, and thought that the insertion of news items in the Press had better be left in the hands of the various Provincial Branches according to wishes expressed by them.

BADGES FOR WORKERS

The question of the issue of special badges in recognition of good work done for the Society was considered. The difficulty of deciding who should be entitled to such badges was discussed. The matter was left in the hands of the Provincial representatives to ascertain the feelings of their Provincial Branches on the subject.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO ENGLAND

The Council were of the opinion that in the interests of the Society it was advisable that the Chairman, Colonel Marshall, should visit England to look into the Society's operations overseas as soon as possible. The Chairman thought he could leave early in June and suggested that he should be accompanied by two members of the Council, one to be a representative from the East and one from the West. This idea was thoroughly approved. It was hoped that it could be carried out, and it was suggested that on their return full information as to the work of the Society overseas would be issued.

Dr. Robertson stated that he would shortly be crossing to England on a Government commission and while there would take every opportunity to look into all Canadian Red Cross matters, and that on his return he would be travelling all through Canada and would be glad to use the opportunity to give publicity to the Society's work.

RESIGNATION OF COLONEL HODGETTS

The following resolution was passed :

"That the Central Council of the Canadian Red Cross Society record their appreciation of the faithful and efficient services rendered by Colonel Hodgetts as Commissioner of the Society Overseas during the past three and one-half years, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Secretary to Colonel Hodgetts."

OVERSEAS (ENGLAND)

REPORT OF INFORMATION BUREAU

LADY DRUMMOND

March 15th to April 15th, 1918

On the afternoon of March 27th, our Bureau was much honoured by receiving a visit from Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Mary, accompanied by Princess Mary. Their Majesties arrived about 3.30 p.m., and spent over two hours visiting each department in turn, asking many questions and showing great interest in every detail. Our work was already partly known to Her Majesty for soon after it was started Lady Drummond was commanded to go before the Queen and tell her what the Society was doing for the men in the hospitals. On that occasion Lady Drummond took with her a report of the work which had just been written by a friend. This Her Majesty read throughout and has never lost her interest in the work.

All of the workers were introduced and the Queen shook hands with each in turn. She asked especially if there were any French-Canadian ladies present. Two were presented, one of whom had lost a son in the war.

Queen Mary asked to be shown the contents of one of our kit bags such as is sent to every soldier in a British Hospital, and accepted a copy of the paper "Blighty," which is printed weekly.

Her Majesty graciously consented to sign her name in the officers' book, as also the Princess Mary, and the afternoon was one to be remembered.

We have to report that the old familiar address of 14, Cockspur Street, will find the Canadian Red Cross Information Bureau no longer, for on March 30th we were moved by the Government into new quarters, namely, those occupied by the York Hotel on Berners Street,—thus suffering the same fate as that of all the other Red Cross offices in London, the British not excepted, as they have already been forced to move on three separate occasions. As Canadians we may feel justly dealt with in this matter, and it is only fair to say that Mr. Winston Churchill's department was occupying adjacent quarters with a door cut into 14, Cockspur St., part of one floor of that building also being occupied by them. They had felt the need of expansion for some time, and owing to a very large order that came in for tanks to be filled by May 1st, the move had to be made by them as expeditiously as possible.

Certainly we miss the old outlook, than which there is none finer in the city of London. The present premises are, however, better adapted to our purposes, the reception rooms being especially nice and spacious, thus making it easier to handle the public. Another advantage is that the A.D.M.S. for London is just next door, and the Canadian Military Medical Headquarters in the immediate neighbourhood, so that in due time no doubt this will become quite as familiar a centre to Canadian officers and men as our old stand.

I. ENQUIRY FOR WOUNDED AND MISSING—Miss Erika Bovey

It is not alone the amount of valuable information that is gathered and distributed by this department which one remarks, but the

promptness with which this information is given when asked for, the filing of casualties being so complete and accessible. I was in this department the other day when a telephone inquiry came through for a private who had been wounded some time ago. To my astonishment I heard a voice say, "Hold the line a moment." Within two minutes the information had been supplied as to the exact nature of the wounds received, in what hospital the casualty was placed, and what progress was being made towards recovery. In another case information was asked for by letter, and within twenty-four hours the answer had been received from this department.

(a) *Visiting Section—Miss Rickards*

Through the information supplied by our many visitors we are often able to do things for the men that otherwise would not be possible. For instance one of our visitors wrote to us that a certain double amputation case was coming from the Granville Special Hospital at Buxton to spend ten days with friends who lived on the outskirts of London, and she wondered if we could supply a chair for his use while here. Through our Parcels Department we were able to give him the use of a wheel-chair which had just been purchased with some funds raised by some little school girls in Eastern Canada. Our visiting section is appreciated almost more than any other by the men themselves, and by the families of our men in Canada from whom such beautiful letters are received by every mail. One of the larger hospitals is being evacuated and will be used solely for officers in future. This will make the visiting somewhat easier, as in the past sometimes every officer on a visitor's list has been in a different hospital. In the case of visiting Tommies, one lady is appointed to each hospital. There she makes her weekly call, first interviewing the registrar and ascertaining just how many Canadians have been admitted since her last visit, in which wards they have been placed and what the nature of their wounds is. After seeing and speaking with each one personally she writes a report of each case and sends it in to the Red Cross Bureau, and it is from these reports that our weekly letter to the nearest of kin of those in hospital is written.

(b) *Written Reports to Relatives of Sick and Wounded—Miss Waring*

Since our last report 3,635 letters have been sent out to Canada to the families of our men who are in hospital. When we know that some cases have stretched over eight or nine months it gives some idea of how many personal letters have been despatched. When letters like the following are received, however, we feel amply repaid for our labours:—"Dear Friends,—I have just received your report of the 9th concerning my son, and I just wish to thank you for your many reports to me since my dear son has been in hospital. I have come to look forward almost as anxiously to your letters as to his, and I ask God's blessing on your noble work. You will never know the comfort your letters bring into hundreds of Canadian homes. My boy could not be anything else but cheerful and bright with all the loving care and kindness that has been his while in hospital."

(c) *Enquiries re Killed and Missing—Mrs. Ellissen*

This section is brought very closely in touch with the British Red Cross searchers. Everything possible is being done by them to

extend the search for the missing. One feels there is no work too hard to obtain any possible details for the bereaved families so far away, and they are so grateful for any news we can supply.

(d) *Written Enquiries—Miss Taylor*

Owing to the increased irregularity in the mails many of the men in hospital have not been receiving letters from their wives and several irate husbands have been writing to us. In one case we were asked to write the postmaster in a small town in the Maritime Provinces. This was done and his reply just received tells of a regular weekly letter being sent, also a money order, and that the wife and daughter were living quietly and economically. This information was passed on at once, with the result that a request was received in our Parcels Department for a cushion top of some Masonic order and silks to embroider same. Perhaps this does not seem a very important event to our readers, nevertheless the incident might have had serious results had it not been for our intervention. We like to hear from one of our visitors that "these men have so much faith in the Canadian Red Cross that they feel they can ask anything and everything." This is just what we wish them to feel and evidently this is the spirit that is growing, as proved by the many personal matters they are laying before us.

We have been very busy in this department during the past fortnight on account of recent casualties and several large Canadian mails; also owing to the fact that during the move we had no telephone connection for several days and were therefore not able to answer telephone enquiries and had more written ones in consequence. In 14 days we have dealt with and answered 382 written enquiries. In many cases where the casualty had not yet been officially reported or recorded we were able on account of our blue card system to put anxious enquirers in touch with wounded relatives before they received the official notification from the Record Office.

One of many interesting cases is that of a mother in Canada who had had no word from her son for a year although he had been in hospital most of that time. We were able to trace the man and send his address to his mother. We also wrote, begging him to get in touch with his home folk.

(e) *Hospitality Section—Miss Kingman*

The work of this section continues to grow and spread in all directions. Of late we have tried to devote more attention to the many Canadian officers in the Royal Air Force who are therefore not attached to any Canadian unit. We are proud to read in an issue of the *Times* that "throughout the present battle the Canadians in the Royal Air Force have done most valuable work." This means also a corresponding number of casualties, and we have lately appointed a visitor, whose only son was killed while flying, whose work it will be to look after all R.A.F. officers while in hospital. From one of these officers we hear:—"It is very encouraging to the Canadian boys who are over here in hospital, to know that there are people who are working hard endeavouring to make our stay as happy and comfortable as any person could make it." We hear also from one of our officers who has spent two weeks at our Rest Home in Sidmouth—"Thanks to the kindness of your department I have

spent one of the most delightful holidays of my career, so for that reason in particular, I remain yours, most gratefully——”

(f) *Officers' Casualties—Mrs. Craig*

Ever since the beginning of the great battle in Picardy the casualties have necessarily increased, despite the splendid work our men have done the officers have been for the most part only slightly wounded, the Canadian cavalry figuring more largely than anything else up to date. The usual number of cases of bronchitis, tonsilitis and pneumonia are reported.

II. PARCELS DEPARTMENT—*Mrs. David Fraser*

Since our last report 2,232 special requests have been met, amongst which were 138 parcels of fruit, 3,400 kit bags and 490 requests from individual men, and fruit to 190 men ; 38 men en route to the Convalescent Hospital at Buxton have been met at St. Pancras, placed in their proper railway carriage and their tea arranged for. During the past fortnight 1,700 kit bags have been sent out to France. This is quite a new departure, the explanation being as follows :—Miss Prentice, who worked in this department for over three years, has just returned from France where she spent six weeks visiting all the hospitals and talking with the various matrons. As an outcome of her visit, the following system has been adopted : To every Canadian soldier who spends a short time in a British hospital in France and returns to the Front without being evacuated to England, his own Red Cross in London sends a comfort bag as a sort of send-off present. This is a specially prepared comfort bag containing various articles which would be of use to him while in the trenches. If the casualty is to be a long time in hospital in France he is given a regulation kit bag containing the 15 odd articles with which most of us are familiar. These kit and comfort bags are sent in bulk to the Canadian hospitals in France and distributed there on the same system as is adopted in England. Thus our Red Cross comes in touch with every Canadian casualty in hospital both in England and France.

With a very nice special contribution from the Women's Institute of Tehkummah and Sandfield, we have paid half the cost (total £25) of a tricycle chair for a discharged Canadian soldier of a Highland battalion, both of whose legs have been amputated, the other half being contributed by Colonel Obed Smith from a special Canadian fund at his disposal.

That our parcels are appreciated we know by the various letters of thanks received daily. To quote from one :—“Just a line to express my thanks for the parcel received this morning. I am, I think, the only Canadian in this huge hospital. How careful you must be following every one of the boys to find me in this out of the way place.”

III. DRIVES AND ENTERTAINMENTS—*Miss Shillington and Miss Perry*

Over and above the many drives and entertainments which we try and give our wounded officers and men, there are several isolated cases like the following :—A poor sailor who was on a mine-sweeper that was blown up by a mine, received a severe blow on the head,

and suffers from terrible depression—at times he will not speak or go out. One of our visitors wrote us that he needed in some way to be roused. We immediately sent her some money to be used in taking him to places of amusement. After one month's effort he has now written us himself of his own accord, thanking us for the books we have sent him from time to time, asking for more, and saying he now feels like a real man again.

REPORT OF THE SHORNCLIFFE DEPÔT

MR. AND MRS. HARCOURT VERNON

For the fortnight ending April 2nd, 1918

The Canadian Training Brigade Hospitals wish me to convey their thanks for the very nice red and white counterpanes. I have had the pleasure of seeing them in use, and they are a cheery contrast to rows of beds covered with grey army blankets, and improve the wards wonderfully.

We have visited Littlestone since sending in our last report, also Warden House and The Grange War Hospital, Deal, and St. Anselm's, Walmer, and have seen all their Canadian patients. The last three hospitals had received convoys direct from France,—but as many of them were light cases we saw them again in the next few days, passing through the Rest Hut at Shorncliffe, and fresh patients from France have taken their places, and all of them have received their special comfort bags containing small kit and a card of welcome from the Canadian Red Cross Society.

The Beach, Walmer (which you will remember closed last month), in course of dismantling their Hospital, offered us some almost new linoleum, with which we hope to cover the Rest Hut floor. They said that if we could find a good use for it, they would rather let us have it than sell it,—giving as a reason the kindness and helpfulness of the Canadian Red Cross Society while their Hospital was open and used as a Convalescent Home for Canadian patients. We accepted their kind offer, and the linoleum is here, waiting until we can find some one to put it down.

We are afraid that we have made heavy requisitions for toilet soap and small kit in general, but there is a very great need, as many of the articles, which are not issued and would never be missed by the old sort of Tommy, are necessities to the new type of man, and they express their gratitude very warmly to the Society for this most direct means of adding to their comfort.

REPORT OF CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITALS IN ENGLAND

MARCH 1ST—22ND, 1918

<i>Hospital</i>	No. Beds equipped	Average No. patients	Highest No. patients at one time
Duchess of Connaught, Canadian Red Cross (No. 15, Canadian General), Cliveden, Taplow...	1000	792	801
King's Canadian Red Cross, Bushey Park.....	406	401	412
Canadian Red Cross Special, Buxton.....	275	258	275

REPORT OF C.R.C.S. NURSES' REST HOME, 66, ENNISMORE
GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.7.

MARCH, 1918

During the past month the following visitors were received and had tea with the Sisters :—Lady Perley, Mrs. Lyons Biggar of Ottawa, Mrs. Robertson (daughter of Sir George Perley), Mrs. Fairbanks of Montreal, and Mr. Harry Biggar,—all of whom expressed their delight in the Home.

Through the kindness of Lady Drummond, nine tickets were sent to the Sisters for the first dress rehearsal of "Flora," on the afternoon of March 7th, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

Nursing Sister Dove, of St. John, N.B., was married from the Home on March 24th, to Capt. Jameson of Toronto. Sister Dove wished me to convey her thanks to the Canadian Red Cross for giving her the privilege of being married under such happy auspices.

During March 28 Sisters were admitted to the Home, some staying only a few days and others for the whole month.

FRANCE

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ON THE
WORK OF THE SOCIETY IN THE FIELD

FOR THE FOUR WEEKS ENDING APRIL 6TH, 1918

In many ways the last two weeks have been the most momentous of the war and much of my report must be of what we have done and how we have been able to meet all demands upon us.

Thanks to the generous and prompt way in which our budget for the year had been met by the London War Committee, when the big battle opened on the morning of March 21st, we had a larger and more varied stock than ever before.

Returning from a visit with Capt. Law to the Canadian Convalescent Home at ———, on the morning of the 21st, we called at G.H.Q., and there learned that the big offensive so long expected had begun and that in one section our troops had been forced back. We hurried on to ———, and Capt. Law with a fresh driver at once left for the front. The next day we learned that many of the Casualty Clearing Stations behind the battle front had been shelled out and that field ambulances and main dressing stations were lost and that the enemy had advanced far beyond what had been expected possible.

During the days of the 22nd and 23rd we had few calls on us except for urgent help for refugees who were pouring down the roads from their homes now either in the hands of the Huns or untenable from shell fire. Soups and clothing were sent wherever possible.

The evening of the 23rd we experienced the worst air raid we have had, the enemy machines dropping dozens of bombs on various parts of the town and the streets being swept with his machine gun fire. Fortunately we escaped without injury though one bomb fell within 50 yards of our garage and completely demolished a house on

which it fell. Our garage staff under the direction of St. George (of Montreal) promptly went to the rescue of the inmates ; of the thirteen people who were in the house when it was hit our men got out ten alive from the debris and the bodies of three who had died as a result either of the explosion or of falling timber.

On Sunday morning, the 24th, we had a telephone call from No. — Canadian Stationary Hospital at —, the O.C., telling me that they were doing casualty clearing station work, that he had only 650 beds at his disposal, that he had over 2,000 patients and that his wants were many and pressing. I got a list from him of what was most urgent and inside of two hours five large lorry loads of supplies were on the way to him. I have often had reason to admire the work of the Canadian Medical services during times of stress, but never have I seen or heard of better work than that which has been done by that unit—officers, sisters and men—during the last awful fortnight. Day and night they have been open, an endless stream of wounded in, thousands of whom had never been given even a first aid dressing ; day and night from this hospital there has gone out to the trains a steady stream of wounded, dressed and fed and cared for. It has been our good fortune to have been able to render them much and generous assistance. Colonel —, in writing to thank us, said:—"Had it not been for your generous and prompt help we could not have carried on." Thanks to the generosity of the people of Canada we could render this assistance when it was so badly needed.

By the 27th of March all our hospitals were busy to overflowing and the calls upon us were increasing by leaps and bounds. Up till then the Canadian Corps had not been engaged, but I realized that if it came into the fight and if calls came from our Advanced Stores and Casualty Clearing Stations, our lorry transport would be hopelessly inadequate to meet the situation. I accordingly telegraphed the American Red Cross in Paris to see if they could come to our aid. The reply came immediately that six large lorries were on their way to us and to let them know if we needed more. This generous act on their part has enabled us to pull through splendidly and we have never once during the fight had a request which has not been filled the day it was received.

So far the Corps has not been engaged but I look forward with confidence to our being able to meet any emergency that may arise.

I wish to place on record our appreciation of the speed and accuracy with which our indents have been met in London and the care which the Stores and Purchasing Dept. there have taken to see that everything we needed was got to us at once.

The Nursing Sisters' Rest House is open with Mrs. Gordon Brown in charge, assisted by ten Canadian V.A.D.'s. From the day it opened its door it has shown that a long-felt want has been filled. It is open to all sisters, whether Imperial, American, Australian, South African, New Zealand or Canadian, and has accommodation for 57. During the first four days some 125 sisters were housed and over 500 meals served.

The erection of a Fractured Femur Ward at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital has been sanctioned, also in principle, the opening

of a Rest Home for Officers at Paris Plage. Both of these I am holding over until the present serious situation has passed.

From March 23rd to 26th we had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Cambie of the London War Committee. It was of great benefit to us to have one of our London advisers with us during a time of stress and pressure.

H. W. BLAYLOCK, Lt.-Colonel,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

(Continued from Bulletin No. 36.)

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE FOLKESTONE DEPÔT (MR. AND MRS. HARCOURT VERNON)

HOSPITALS

Supplies have been distributed to 64 hospitals. Although some of these hospitals have been closed this autumn, the number of Canadian patients in hospitals under our care has not diminished, as the bed capacity of the larger hospitals has been increased. Stretcher cases are, as far as possible, sent to other parts of the country.

SUPPLIES

The following supplies, sent to us from London, have been distributed :

	Cases	Articles
Bandages and medical accessories.....	244	5,173
Bedding and linen.....	...	8,257
Clothing.....	14	29,396
Games, etc.....	...	4,254
Groceries, etc.....	164	8,432
Toilet and towels.....	19	40,187
Sundries.....	...	21,988
Tobacco, lbs.....	...	3,189
Cigarettes.....	...	2,376,807
Pipes.....	...	5,506
Rest room supplies—		
Tea, lbs.....	...	430
Coffee, lbs.....	...	408
Biscuits, tins.....	...	175

OUTDOOR GAMES

In the early spring, acting under the Commissioner's instructions, we ascertained from the various hospitals what games were most suitable for the outdoor recreation of their patients. We submitted a list of their requirements to the Commission and were enabled to supply all their wants at the opening of the season.

PATIENTS RETURNING TO CANADA

One thousand seven hundred and nineteen of these patients have been provided with hold-alls, containing comforts for their voyage.

CONVOYS FROM FRANCE

Patients arriving sick or wounded from France have received comfort bags containing toilet articles, cigarettes, etc. This is helping Lady Drummond's scheme, which extends all over England.

REST HUT AT SHORNCLIFFE MILITARY HOSPITAL

Free refreshments have been served to patients coming to this hospital from all over the area for the purpose of attending Medical Boards or transferring to other hospitals. Tea, coffee and cocoa, etc., for this purpose have been shipped to us from the Purchasing Department. Biscuits, bread butter and milk, etc., have been procured locally as they were required. Magazines and writing material are also supplied. Music and such games as chess, draughts, help to keep the men,

who are waiting their turn to be boarded, well occupied. Rest and refreshment have been afforded to over 40,000 patients, many of whom have had long and exhausting journeys.

Miss Carlton, who is in charge of this work, has been assisted by the following ladies :

Mrs. J. Allan	Mrs. Lambert
Miss Allen	Miss Lambert
Mrs. Armstrong	Mrs. Hugh Lumsden
Miss Armstrong	Mrs. McCulloch
Miss Atkinson	Mrs. McDonald
Miss Bate	Mrs. Macdonell
Mrs. Banks	Mrs. Morrow
Mrs. Battiscombe	Mrs. Mullins
Mrs. Boger	Mrs. Neale
Mrs. Brock	Mrs. Neville
Mrs. Chown	Mrs. Rosamond
Miss Chown	Mrs. Ross Sutherland
Mrs. Cleghorn	Mrs. Shorer
Miss Cotton	Mrs. Stockwell
Mrs. Currie	Mrs. Towers
Mrs. Daniel	Mrs. Alfred Walker
Miss Edwards	Mrs. Watson
Mrs. Jones	Mrs. Winstanley

DEPOT STAFF

The staff consists of Sergt. Bristow, Corpl. J. Goodall and Pte. W. Cann, whose competent and willing work has been beyond praise and of great value to me.

In conclusion I should like to return thanks for the unfailing and liberal supplies sent to us from Headquarters with which to carry on the work of the Society in this area.

(Sgd.) H. E. HARCOURT VERNON,
*Director, Folkestone Depot,
Canadian Red Cross Society.*

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE I.O.D.E. CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL

BY LT.-COL. ROBERTSON, C.A.M.C., OFFICER IN CHARGE

During the past year the work at this Hospital has progressed satisfactorily and everything that could possibly be done has been carried out by a staff who include some of the most famous Canadian surgeons and physicians practising in London, a list of whom was given in our report for last year.

The hospital has been practically filled during this time, and it is very rarely that we have a vacant bed.

Only 4 deaths have occurred, and all these officers have died as results of serious sickness contracted whilst on active service in France. This number of deaths is remarkably low, as most of the cases that are sent to this hospital are serious, and we are, because of our small size, peculiarly able to look after very sick cases, as we can give them individual attention. It was because of the latter reason, decided with the authorities, that only Expeditionary Force cases, direct from France, should be admitted, except in unusual circumstances, such other admissions or transfers being left to the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

(Sgd.) H. M. ROBERTSON,
Officer in Charge.

ARTS AND CRAFTS DEPARTMENT

OF THE GRANVILLE CANADIAN SPECIAL HOSPITAL, RAMSGATE

In July, 1916, there was appropriated by the Executive the sum of 1,200 pounds sterling for the erection and equipment of a large machine shop for the purpose of giving instructions and employment to the patients in woodwork. At the same time a grant of 600 pounds sterling was made for the purchase of material. This special department provided by the Society was associated with several other branches of

arts and crafts, the machinery for which was taken over from the College Authorities of Chatham House on the property being acquired by the Military Authorities.

The Society has also paid the cost of hiring a printing press, with the necessary type, etc.

The success of this scheme of employment and instruction of the convalescent patients in Arts and Crafts was assured from its inception, but it has undoubtedly been materially assisted by the Red Cross, for while the Medical Authorities were anxious for the establishment of a system which would be both beneficial and useful to the convalescent soldiers, whether he subsequently returned to duty or went out of the service, yet it required the financial assistance which the Society has freely given.

Owing to the hospital having recently been removed to Buxton, where it will be remembered the Society established a Special Hospital last year, we have had to take the workshop down and remove it, together with the machinery. At the time of writing we are pleased to say that the building has been re-erected at Buxton and the machinery is now being re-instated and we have further added to the efficiency of the Arts and Crafts by ordering machinery for metal working, which will supplement that which formerly was in use at Ramsgate, but which the Military Authorities had to leave behind, as it was the property of the College, now evacuated.

Regarding the machinery itself, I may state that it is all of the first quality and at the close of the war could be shipped to Canada, when the Society could very fittingly and profitably make use of it for similar purposes upon the return of our convalescent soldiers.

For the purpose of illustrating the class of work turned out in these workshops, I have pleasure in submitting a series of photographs, which will convey to the Executive and the public a better idea of its nature than any lengthy description.

CHARLES A. HODGETTS, Col.,
Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ON THE WORK IN FRANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31st, 1917

(LT.-COL. H. W. BLAYLOCK)

The period covered by this report has added splendid pages to the record of the Canadian Corps. Vimy, Hill 70, and Passchendaele form a trio of triumphs which has placed Canada's soldiers amongst the flower of the British Army.

INCREASING DEMANDS

Continuous fighting, extending from the glorious ninth of April to the present time, has taken its heavy toll of casualties. Our work has been extended and developed to an unprecedented degree. Consequently our demands have been great, but the generosity of the Canadian people has been greater. Their wonderful liberality has enabled us to anticipate all requirements and to give to Canada's sick and wounded every possible comfort.

CO-OPERATION WITH C.A.M.C.

I have again to report that we are working in the closest harmony and co-operation with the Canadian Medical service. I wish to record my deep appreciation of the wise counsel and helpful suggestions which we have received from all senior officers of the C.A.M.C.—and especially from Col. A. E. Ross, C.M.G., D.D.M.S., Canadian Corps. Col. Ross is a true friend of the Canadian Red Cross Society, who takes a warm interest in our work, does everything in his power to prevent waste of our supplies and helps us to direct our energies into the most useful channels.

HOSPITALS AND CASUALTY CLEARING STATIONS

You are already so familiar with our work for the Canadian Casualty Clearing Stations, Stationary and General Hospitals, that I need not detain you with a further detailed report. During the past 12 months, in this Department of our work, demands have been more varied and the volume of supplies issued has been greater. In the main, however, no new feature has developed and we are proceeding along the lines which have been tested by experience and which have already received your approval.

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE FRONT

After careful survey of the situation and after consultation with the D.D.M.S., I came to the conclusion that we should extend our efforts towards the front line and endeavor to give more help to Regimental Medical Officers, to Advanced Dressing Stations and to other posts maintained in the Forward Area by Field Ambulances.

Before the battle of Vimy Ridge we opened an Advanced Store adjacent to the headquarters of the D.D.M.S., from which we were able to supply all requirements before and during the engagement.

This experiment having proved successful, we opened a permanent Advanced Store in charge of an officer of the Society, who is attached to the D.D.M.S. The Store, which has its own transport, is stocked with all supplies likely to be useful at Advanced Posts.

SUPPLIES IN THE TRENCHES

You may rest assured that as soon as a casualty comes into the hands of the Canadian Medical Service he begins to receive benefit from the Canadian Red Cross Society. The Medical Officer of every battalion and every battery, before entering upon his tour of duty in the fighting zone is supplied with what we term an "M.O.'s parcel," i.e., a parcel of comforts specially selected for use in the trenches, such as Greeley hypodermic units, solidified alcohol for heating water, soups, chocolates, cocoa, café au lait, scissors, candles, matches, cigarettes, etc. During the cold weather socks and mufflers are included.

To Relay Posts, Advanced Dressing Stations and Main Dressing Stations we issue supplies of dressings, socks, pyjamas, Primus stoves, oil heaters, scissors, café au lait, biscuits, soups, cocoa, chocolate, cigarettes, personal property bags—in fact, everything which will comfort the casualty or assist the Medical Officer in his work.

CONTACT WITH ADVANCED POSTS

These Advanced Posts are regularly and frequently visited by an officer of the Society, who accompanies the D.D.M.S. on his inspections. We are thus in constant personal touch with all Medical Officers who are working in the Advanced Area. We are able to learn requirements at first hand and to fill them with the utmost promptitude.

A FIGHT WITH GAS

May I quote one instance to show the value of this close contact. When mustard gas first made its appearance, the D.D.M.S. of the Canadian Corps decided to adopt a form of treatment which necessitated a supply of baths and a quantity of pyjamas. To obtain them from Army sources would have taken time. The D.D.M.S. stated his requirements to his representative, who immediately telephoned our Headquarters in Boulogne. Within four hours the baths and pyjamas were delivered in the forward area. A day or two later mustard gas shells were poured upon our troops. Because the remedy was at hand our men escaped with little suffering and practically no disfigurement.

HILL 70

At the battle of Lens, Canadian Red Cross supplies proved to be of great assistance, but during the operations at Passchendaele we were able to do more in the battle zone for the wounded than ever before.

PASSCHENDAELE

Conditions at Passchendaele were indescribable. The ground behind the front line was a mass of shell holes and a sea of mud. Roads were few and indifferent. Shell fire was heavy, gas was frequently used, aeroplanes bombed roads and communications. For thousands of yards, through the sticky Flanders mud, stretcher bearers toiled to bring the wounded towards help and safety. The advanced medical posts were, at the best, in partly demolished "pill boxes," at the worst, in the open without cover or protection. I venture to say that never in the history of the war has any medical service been faced with greater difficulties or graver dangers. The successful evacuation of our wounded in record time and in remarkably good condition reflects the highest credit upon the medical officers of the Canadian Corps. Men of wider experience than myself go so far as to say that it is an unequalled achievement.

OUR PART OF THE STRUGGLE

In view of existing conditions, I knew that you would wish us to place all our resources and our best energies at the service of the D.D.M.S. In consultation with him, a long list of comforts was provided and delivered to the forward units.

YOU EAT A CHRISTIE BISQUIT
YOU EAT THE BEST

CHRISTIE, BROWN & CO., Limited

Purest and Best
WINDSOR SALT

THE CANADIAN SALT CO., Limited

WINDSOR, ONT.

Five Roses

THE GUARANTEED FLOUR FOR BREAD, CAKES AND PASTRY

By Special Appointment to His Majesty The King

The OGILVIE FLOUR MILLS CO., Limited

MONTREAL

FORT WILLIAM

WINNIPEG

MEDICINE HAT

THE LARGEST MILLERS IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

WESTERN CANADA FLOUR MILLS CO.
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PURITY FLOUR

MORE BREAD AND BETTER BREAD

BAKER'S COCOA

Is as delicious in flavor as it is high in quality and absolute in purity

Made in Canada by WALTER BAKER & CO., Limited
MONTREAL, Can.

Established 1780

DORCHESTER, Mass.

RED ROSE TEA

"is good tea"

Always everywhere in Canada,
ask for EDDY'S MATCHES

From socks to scissors, from candles to chewing gum, every want was anticipated. There was no stint of anything. We were in daily touch with every advanced post. During the heavier fighting these posts were visited two or three times each day, so that no want might remain unfulfilled. Our lorries have made deliveries in the forward area at midnight and have started again shortly after dawn to fill some new demand.

CANTEENS IN THE FORWARD AREA

The conditions of the ground, the long distances which stretcher cases had to be carried, and the cold and wet weather, made it necessary that both casualties and stretcher bearers should be provided with hot drinks, chocolate, biscuits, etc., at relay posts and advanced dressing stations. In co-operation with the Chaplain Services, we opened eight canteens, reaching from the relay posts on the right and left sectors to Ypres. These canteens proved a positive God-send, as anyone who has seen what a hot drink means to a wounded man who is shivering with cold, or to an exhausted stretcher bearer, can testify. Throughout the whole of the Passchendaele operations we were able to provide every wounded man and every stretcher bearer with this practical and most acceptable form of "first aid."

In this connection I must acknowledge our indebtedness to Lt.-Col. McGreer, Assistant Director of Chaplain Services, and the Chaplains under his control for their harmonious co-operation and splendid assistance.

Under our arrangement, Chaplain Services provided the personnel to operate the canteens which were established at points selected by D.D.M.S. We provided all supplies for wounded and for stretcher bearers, while Chaplain Services devoted their supplies to combatants.

SOCKS FROM HOME

In concluding my report on our activities in the forward areas, I should like to tell the women of Canada what a wonderful help and comfort the socks which they knitted have been to our wounded. To men who have been standing for many hours in mud and icy water, who are chilled to the bone and suffering severe pain, warm and dry socks bring indescribable relief. They are all the more appreciated because they come from "home" and are a tangible evidence of the devoted interest with which Canada watches the welfare of her fighting sons.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR DRESSING STATIONS

Adequate light for dressing stations, especially for those which are established in cellars or dug-outs, is a matter of great importance to the medical service, because good light means quicker and better dressing of the wounded. We are now providing portable electric light plants with complete equipment of ceiling lamps, hand lamps with reflectors, etc. These plants are run by gasoline, which is always available. They are small, strong and so light that they can be carried up a trench by two men. I anticipate excellent results from them.

HOW CANADIAN GIRLS HELP WOUNDED

The Canadian Red Cross recreation huts, which have been established at Canadian hospitals on the Line of Communication and at the Base are now in charge of Canadian ladies, who have come to France to undertake this work. These ladies, who are V.A.D. members, are rendering splendid service. The recreation huts are the indoor playground of the "Up" patients. Our V.A.D. representatives organize concerts, whist drives, billiard tournaments and games of all kinds. Thanks to the energy, tact and sympathetic kindness of our Canadian girls, the Red Cross recreation huts have become the happiest parts of the great hospital camps where suffering men lie by the thousand and where the Angel of Death walks with unsheathed sword.

HELPING FRANCE

Our Paris Stores continue to assist France's wounded by issuing supplies of underclothing, shirts, pyjamas, socks, dressings, etc., to hospitals in all parts of the French Army Zone. This work is under the direction of Mr. R. M. Hardie, whose services during the past two years have been most valuable.

OUR PARIS HOSPITAL

The completion of our hospital at Joinville has been delayed by a variety of causes arising out of war conditions and which are beyond our control. Supplies have been delayed, labor has been difficult to obtain.

The House
of Homes

Adams

The House
of Homes

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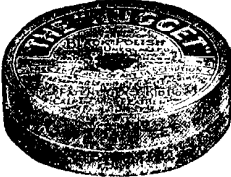
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**CLEANS
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HEALTH SOAP

The work of construction is now proceeding more rapidly and we hope that we will be about to open the hospital at the beginning of 1918.

RED CROSS WARDS FOR CHEST CASES

Since my last report the Canadian Red Cross Society has erected Hut Wards for the treatment of chest cases at No. 1 and No. 3 Canadian General Hospitals. These wards are excellent and are proving of great assistance.

QUARTERS AT BOULOGNE

We have erected a garage, motor repair shop and quarters for the men at Boulogne. Our drivers and mechanics are now enabled to live together, near their work and in comfort.

OUR HELPERS

Throughout the strenuous months which have passed, those associated with me in our work in France have been loyal, devoted and untiring. I cannot express my admiration for the wonderful work which has been done by our V.A.D.'s, our Officers, our N.C.O.'s, drivers and orderlies. They have worked early and late, actuated by a wholehearted desire to help the sick and wounded. Any measure of success which has been attained is largely due to their efforts.

THE LONDON WAR COMMITTEE

We in France would be singularly remiss if we failed to acknowledge the kindly support and practical help which our work has received from the London War Committee. In spite of the many calls upon their time, the members of the Committee have visited us and have gone most carefully into our requirements. All requests for supplies receive the Committee's prompt attention and sympathetic consideration.

A WORD OF THANKS

May I, in concluding this report, send a message of gratitude to every Canadian who has helped us during the past months, with money, with supplies, with sympathy and with support. It is a message not only from myself, and from the band of loyal men and women who work with me in France, but also from the thousands of sick and wounded who have benefited by your kindness and your generosity.

(Sgd.) H. W. BLAYLOCK, Lt.-Col.,
Assistant Commissioner.

MAIL BAG

TWO LETTERS FROM PRISONERS OF WAR

Sept. 1st, 1917.

Well, I thought it was time to write and thank you and all who are working so hard for us boys. We do not grumble, but we give our thoughts over to them who has done many kindnesses for us, all who depend on you for our daily bread. You have done splendid work and the English boys say so too. We cannot thank you all enough; we know by the things you send us it is no easy going, but hard work day and night. Well, all the boys are wishing to be home some day to shake hands of all the dear friends who proved staunch and true in the last three years of their strife and trouble.

The weather is very wet at present, but we can expect it so, as cold weather will soon be giving us a call.

I wish we can see home for Christmas and have once more peace and happiness with all who are dear to us.

I will now close, wishing you all the best of health and happiness.

Dec. 26th, 1917.

Warmest thanks to you and to all those who are working on behalf of the Canadian Prisoners of War in Germany. I greatly appreciate all you are doing and the splendid manner in which you have looked after me during the past months deserves every praise, and I am very grateful to you all. The parcels of food and clothing arrived with unfailing regularity and have contained every requirement. With every good wish for the New Year and once again thanking you all for your great kindness, I remain.



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 LETTERS OF THANKS FROM FRENCH HOSPITALS

January 10th, 1918.

Your shipment of 17 cases, containing linen, dressings and woollen goods reached us the 2nd fortnight of December. I beg to acknowledge the receipt and to convey to you all our thanks for your efficient and generous help, which you sent us so spontaneously.

Your wonderful shipment arrived several days before Christmas, and with your shirts and woollen underwear we were able to enlarge the small parcels which we intended for each one of our wounded at the Christmas tree. They all ask me to express to you their gratitude. We were able to make some of the rooms look particularly nice with mistletoe brought from the invaded regions.

December 31st, 1917.

In returning you the statement of the shipment of cases of gifts, which you have had the kindness to send our formation, I beg you to accept the assurance of my most grateful thanks for the sympathy and generosity which you show to my hospital.

We are very grateful for the chivalrous sentiments from Canada which they have always shown for France.

December 28th, 1917.

On receipt of the various gifts, which you have had the goodness to send to our section, I add my best and most sincere wishes for you and the other benefactors of your Society.

We hope that this year will be one of victory and the one to crush out the infamous one, who is causing disturbance all over the entire world.

Our dear wounded bless you and know all the good that you do.

All the personnel join their thanks with mine and also their most ardent wishes for the valiant Canadian army.

December 26th, 1917.

We are infinitely grateful to you for acceding to our request, and beg of you to accept our most sincere thanks.

The eleven cases of dressings and linen, which have reached our wounded and convalescents have helped us pass what has commenced to be a very rigorous winter, and have greatly aided our convalescents, who are always in need of everything.

We beg of you to convey our very deepest thanks to the Canadian Red Cross Society.

 FROM MAJOR J. CAMERON WILSON, C.A.M.C., FOR THE OFFICER COMMANDING
 NO. 14 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, EASTBOURNE

October 13th, 1917.

On behalf of the 14th Canadian General Hospital, Eastbourne, may I express my gratitude and appreciation for the splendid and generous manner in which the Canadian Red Cross Society has looked after our various needs during the past year. Regular donations of tobacco and cigarettes have added greatly to the cheerfulness and happiness of the patients, while other gifts such as fruit, toilet articles, books and many other things too numerous to mention have all been appreciated by the patients and have added immensely to their comfort and well-being. The linoleum which you so kindly gave us has been laid and polished and has improved the appearance of the wards to a remarkable extent. In closing I would like to say that we have never made a request to the Society for articles or materials which would alleviate the suffering of the patients, which has not been considered and carried out in a kindly and generous manner for which our gratitude is unbounded.

With best wishes for the continued success and prosperity of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

 FROM COL. D. W. MCPHERSON, C.A.M.C., OFFICER COMMANDING NO. 16 CANADIAN
 GENERAL HOSPITAL, ORPINGTON, KENT

October 15th, 1917.

I have great pleasure on behalf of the officers, staff and patients of this hospital in thanking the Canadian Red Cross Society for the many gifts and kind attentions we have received from them during the past year.

The Society has rendered us most valuable assistance having supplied an unlimited number of needed articles for the patients. The cinema machine that you presented to us last year has been the means of producing, alternate with concerts, almost daily entertainments. The garden seats supplied for the grounds have been

Everybody wants the best value for his money, use
BLUE RIBBON TEA
 and you will certainly get it.

CHEER THE BOYS UP

A message of cheer, congratulation, a few brief words from home are always appreciated by the boys at the Front. Such a cable costs but little, for there are special rates for soldiers. The men at the Front may be reached through the Army Post Office, London. Call on any G.N.W. Manager for full information.

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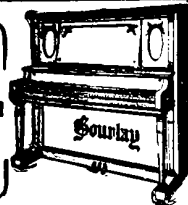
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much appreciated by the patients, enabling them to avail themselves of the fresh air and sunshine.

I wish to thank you especially for the very liberal supplies of tobacco, cigarettes, delicacies and other comforts which tend to ease the suffering and brighten the hospital life of the wounded Tommy. In fact, I think it would greatly cheer the hearts of all those at home in Canada who subscribe to your Society if they could see the fruit borne of their vast labor of love and sacrifice.

We continue our work here confident that we can call on you in any emergency.

FROM MAJOR H. T. ADAIR, C.A.M.C., QUARTERMASTER, CANADIAN SECTION

EPSOM, SURREY, October 19th, 1917.

The Canadian Red Cross Society, through its headquarters, 14-16 Cockspur Street, London, has been doing valuable work in ministering to the comfort of the convalescent troops from the Dominion at this hospital.

During the past year, a monthly consignment of tobacco and cigarettes has been received, which has been sufficient to issue to each patient 75 cigarettes or 4 oz. of tobacco. Games of all kinds, both outdoor and indoor, also reading matter have been very generously supplied.

At Christmas time every patient in hospital received a well-filled Christmas stocking, also a gift from the Canadian Red Cross Society comprising cigarettes, chocolate and writing materials.

FROM MAJOR R. E. WODEHOUSE, C.A.M.C., OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, BEARWOOD, WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

October 20th, 1917.

May I be permitted to express my most sincere thanks and appreciation of your exceedingly great generosity to the patients of this hospital during the past twelve months. When one gathers all the data together and surveys it, one is almost doubtful of the figures, they appear so unlimited in the aggregate and express in the strongest possible words the unrestrained spirit which prevails in your London office, to add every possible happiness to all Canadian patients. I do hope the people at home who give you such excellent financial support, really know the kindly feeling the Canadian patients have towards the organization in England, and how proudly they speak of its efficiency in giving them first-hand information about any matter whatsoever, either by phone, letter or personally, and especially the excellent manner in which the men in British hospitals are at once gotten into touch with by your visitors. Your ears must burn at times, semi-conscious of the words said expressing the gratefulness of these excellent fellows, and the pride with which they refer to "their own Red Cross."

May I especially mention the gift of 45 pounds sterling for Christmas cheer 1916 and 1917, as well as ten pounds contributed towards the repair of seven boats used on the lake by the patients. The re-covering of the billiard table in your excellent hut also was no small matter, as well as the supply of three wheel-bath chairs, two gramophones and five excellent coke stoves to add to the comfort of your recreation hut last winter.

There seems no end to things requiring special mention.

I do hope our work here will continue to receive your unabated, whole-hearted consideration, and again record my heartfelt gratefulness to you and your excellent Society for bounties received.

FROM MAJOR J. G. HUE FOR THE OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, BROMLEY, KENT

October 16th, 1917.

I have the honor to tender on behalf of the patients in this hospital my very best thanks for the many generous gifts received from the Canadian Red Cross Society during the past twelve months.

These gifts, in addition to the regular monthly supply of cigarettes and tobacco (in itself a very liberal and most acceptable donation) have been of a most comprehensive character, include a billiard table and accessories, materials for various kinds of games, canned fruits, hospital linen and clothing, and a regular supply of papers and periodicals.

I can assure you that all of the above have been very heartily appreciated, and have in addition, greatly conduced to the comfort of the inmates of this hospital.



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IRON WORK OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS

MONTREAL OFFICE IN NEW BIRKS BUILDING

FROM H. COL. W. WEBSTER, OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, HILLINGDON HOUSE, UXBRIDGE

October 11th, 1917.

I wish to record my thanks to the Canadian Red Cross Society for their assistance during the past year in providing comforts for the men at the Canadian Convalescent Hospital, Hillingdon House, Uxbridge.

I should like to refer particularly to the Recreation Hut completed three months ago, which has proved a great boon, also to the apparatus provided for the gymnasium.

FROM LT. COL. GEO. CLIMEN, OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, MONKS HORTON

I beg to thank you for the thorough manner in which your Society has met our every request, and for the promptness you have displayed on every occasion. You have supplied large quantities of jam, etc., for the use of the patients here, and in addition have provided games, and furnished the material for sports. You have also furnished clothing which was not an article of issue from Ordnance, all of which has tended to the comfort of the patients under our charge, and I wish you to accept our cordial thanks for the way in which you have done it.

CAPT. T. R. RAMSAY, MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE THE HERMITAGE, CANADIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, HASTINGS

October 21st, 1917.

As The Hermitage is closing at the end of this month, I have much pleasure in thanking you for the many gifts your Society have so kindly sent to our sick and wounded, and I can assure you that everything has been more than appreciated by our patients here.

Thanking you on behalf of the patients and staff.

FROM LT.-COL. J. T. CLARKE, OFFICER COMMANDING GRANVILLE CANADIAN SPECIAL HOSPITAL, RAMSGATE

October 7th, 1917.

As this hospital has been compelled, on account of the multiplicity of air-raids, to cease work in this district, in order to resume operations in safer surroundings at Buxton, the present time would seem to be an opportune one to express to you our sincere appreciation of the very great help which the Canadian Red Cross has been to this hospital, ever since its first inception, two years ago.

You have not only supplied us with the regular lists of comforts to the patients, which have now become so ordinary that we hardly think of mentioning them, but by the provision of an enormous amount of machinery and a building for our curative workshops you have made it possible for us to institute this new form of treatment which has been found so exceptionally beneficial to crippled soldiers and those whose nervous systems have been badly shattered. This special line of work, which you have made it possible for us to pursue, by supplying both machinery and money, will be, I am sure, a lasting monument to the Canadian Red Cross and to the wisdom of the management of the funds, for there are many hundreds of men who have already received benefit in these workshops, which they will talk about, and it is expected that many hundreds more will receive similar benefit in Buxton, where we will do all that is possible to carry on, and improve, the work of the past.

FROM COL. W. L. WATT, O.C. DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

October 12th, 1917.

It gives me very great pleasure to state that during the past six months, the Canadian Red Cross Society has supplied the following for the benefit of the patients and staff of this hospital :

Patients

1. Awnings for all verandas for protection of bed patients.
2. Overhead shelter for out-door patients.
3. Monthly supply of cigarettes and tobacco.
4. Instruments for orchestra.
5. Games and equipment for out-door sports.
6. General Red Cross supplies.

Hospital

1. All wards redecorated.
2. Operating and dental blocks improved and enlarged.
3. Many kitchen improvements.
4. Kitchens, bath rooms and offices provided for Ontario wards.
5. New cold storage plant.

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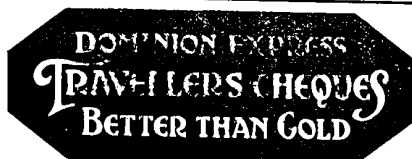
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Nursing Sisters

1. Two new sleeping huts, and furnishings for general and sleeping quarters.

FROM LT.-COL. H. R. CASGRAIN, THE KING'S CANADIAN RED CROSS CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, BUSHEY PARK, HAMPTON HILL.

11th October, 1917.

I thank you most sincerely for your very kind letter of recent date in which you tender your congratulations to me on my promotion to the command of No. 8 Canadian General Hospital, France.

I can assure you, my dear Colonel, that whatever measure of success has been mine, while in command of the King's Canadian Hospital, I must attribute no small amount to the hearty co-operation of yourself as Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross Society, which has so systematically extended its generosity to the limit for the care and comfort of the patients at this hospital. I shall never forget the many courtesies which have been received from yourself personally, and in my new sphere of action will carry with me the most kindly thoughts of the happy relations that have always existed between us.

With kindest regards and the best of wishes for the future.

FROM LT.-COL. FREDERICK GUEST, OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN RED CROSS SPECIAL HOSPITAL, BUXTON, DERBY

October 17th, 1917.

I beg to advise you that during the past year comforts and necessities have been supplied in abundance to this hospital by the Canadian Red Cross Society and all requisitions receive most prompt and favorable consideration, and everything that is procurable from your Society is readily forwarded.

Hospital equipment has also been received in a most satisfactory manner, and it is considered that the Canadian Red Cross Society, as far as this hospital is concerned, are doing invaluable work to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and wounded of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and that every effort is being made to carry out the intentions for which such Society was formed.

FROM LT.-COL. A. T. MACKENZIE, OFFICER COMMANDING PRINCESS PATRICIA CANADIAN RED CROSS SPECIAL HOSPITAL

20th October, 1917.

On account of the decision to close all hospitals in the Ramsgate area on account of the danger of exposure to air-raids, we have evacuated all patients and are awaiting arrangements to establish the hospital in another locality. At this time I am glad to take the opportunity of expressing to your Society our appreciation of their willing and generous assistance in every case in which we appealed to you and to the great increase in comfort and happiness resulting to the patients from your efforts.

While the Princess Patricia hospital occupied the premises it is now leaving, we were able to provide a capacity of 700 beds, and had a daily average of about 500, and the accommodation in building, grounds, playing fields, recreation rooms, and cooking and dining facilities as provided and arranged by your Society were such that not only did the patients show a rapid improvement, but they were enthusiastic in their praise of this hospital.

In addition to the many services rendered us by Headquarters of your Society, we have been the recipients of numerous donations from individual branches in Canada, who had donated beds at the time of organization of the hospital, and who maintained and evinced their warm personal sympathy by interesting and valuable gifts, and we are happy to have this opportunity of giving expression to our appreciation of the interest and kindness of so many of our friends among the women and children of Canada associated in Red Cross work for the good of those who have suffered on the battle fields of Europe.

We look forward with assurance to your assistance and interest in our hospital when it is again established in a safer area.

FROM LT.-COL. H. E. MINERDE, OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN SPECIAL HOSPITAL, WITLEY CAMP, SURREY

October 19th, 1917.

During the time No. 8 Canadian Stationary Hospital was administering the Canadian Military Hospital, Hastings, from January to September, 1917, the Red Cross supplies received from your representative, Mr. Harcourt Vernon, at Folkestone, were generous, and were the means of adding greatly to the comfort and needs

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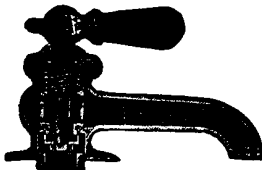


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of the sick and wounded in the Canadian Military Hospital, Hastings. We never appealed in vain for assistance in this direction, and received nothing but courteous treatment from your Society. I have very much pleasure in making this statement and have nothing but admiration for the excellent work carried on by the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Letters of Thanks from Allied Organizations

FROM THE BELGIAN RED CROSS

28 Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.I., Oct. 31st, 1917.

For now nearly two years the Belgian Red Cross Society has been beholden to your Society for constant aid and support. As stated in our report for last year, the Canadian Red Cross had then already acquired a claim to our deepest gratitude, and ever since you have been continually increasing our debt to you ; you have indeed been friends in need to the Belgians.

We trust that we may depend on the continuance of the good-will of the Canadian Red Cross, which is more than ever necessary to us in the present circumstances.

We also beg to state our appreciation of the untiring kindness and friendship of yourself and Col. Bryan and to convey to you both our warmest thanks for all you are doing for us.

FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, CROIX ROUGE FRANCAISE

9 Knightsbridge, S.W., Oct. 19th, 1917.

It gives me great pleasure once more to testify to the valuable help given by the Canadian Red Cross to the Sister Societies of France. We have constant evidence of the appreciation of the Hospitals throughout France of the magnificent contributions of hospital stores distributed through your Paris depot and by this Comite. The Industrial Regions being still in the grip of the enemy deprives France not only of the power of manufacturing many of the articles which are essential to the maintenance of an efficient hospital service, but also of the means to purchase them in adequate quantities. The goods sent by you in such liberal quantities and of so admirable quality are, therefore, received with feelings of gratitude difficult to appreciate by those whose territory is free of the enemy and whose mills and factories are in full work.

We must add to this the help given to the French Medical Service by your hospitals in Paris, and now we are still further in your debt by the appeal which your Headquarters in Canada have so spontaneously made on our behalf resulting in over £26,000 being added to the Lord Mayor of London's Empire Fund for the sick and wounded soldiers of France, to be administered by this Comite.

I do assure you that by our close association with the Civil and Military Authorities and the people of France themselves, we are able to state unhesitatingly that the help of your Society for France is of inestimable value in the relief of suffering and in cementing the alliance upon which alone rests the future of the two peoples and civilizations.

FROM THE HON. SEC. FOR CANADA OF THE FRENCH WOUNDED EMERGENCY FUND

44 Lowndes Square, S.W., Oct. 13th, 1917.

I am instructed by the Committee of the F.W.E.F. to ask you, when making your report of the work done in Europe by the Canadian Red Cross, to express our deep appreciation of the ready assistance given us at all times through the Commissioner's office and by the representatives of the Society both in London and Paris.

We have received advice and kind attention whenever we have had occasion to ask for either ; many times, through your prompt delivery of some certain hospital requisite of which we were in need, you have enabled us to respond without loss of time to urgent appeals from French Military Hospitals ; you have, from time to time, sent us valuable consignments which have greatly added to the comfort and well-being of the wounded French soldiers ; you have facilitated and expedited our work among the desolate civilians in the reconquered districts allotted to our care by the loan of a Talbot lorry ; and the recommendation of the London Board of Advisers has resulted in generous grants of money for the continuance of our work for the French.

It has been my very agreeable task to act as the medium for Canadian generosity to this Fund, and I have been very proud of the unfailing support which I have always received from the Canadian Red Cross Society to whom it is now my privilege to extend the warmest and most sincere thanks of my Committee.



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FROM THE DELEGATE GENERAL OF THE ITALIAN RED CROSS

68 Portland Place, London, W.I., 12th Oct., 1917.

I have pleasure in sending you a copy of our reports and accounts for the year 1916 and the six months January to June, 1917. In looking through its pages you will see that the name of the Canadian Red Cross Society stands out most prominent of all our generous donors, and I wish to seize this opportunity to repeat to you our warmest and most sincere thanks for the very invaluable help you have given us in our work. Your numerous and splendid gifts have not only been very much appreciated by us and our Hospital authorities, but also and more especially so by our brave wounded men, and I have no doubt that the assurance I am able to give you that you have largely contributed to foster a feeling of lasting amity and comradeship between our two young and rising nations, Canada and Italy, will be as gratifying to you as it is to us.

FROM THE RUSSIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

India House, Kingsway, London, W.C., 15th Oct., 1917.

The Russian Red Cross Society desires to offer very sincere thanks to the members of the Canadian Red Cross Society for their generous donations during the past year.

We understand that the Russian Embassy in London has already forwarded you a translation of the vote of thanks which was passed at a meeting of the Russian Red Cross Society in Petrograd last January.

During the past year the Russian Red Cross Society has received through you gifts of drugs, which were urgently required in some of the smaller hospitals in Petrograd.

In March last we were able to send to Russia 55 ounces of atropine sulphate, which the Canadian Red Cross Society purchased for us at a cost of £300. Five hundred cases of hospital requisites were shipped for the Russian Red Cross Society in May, 1917, and in August, 1917, 30,000 pairs of socks.

The Russian Red Cross Society not only attends to the wants of the Russian soldiers when wounded, but also supplies him with food and clothing at various Red Cross stations on the way to the trenches, so that the gift of socks was indeed a great boon.

Please express to all your Red Cross workers our grateful thanks, and assure them that their generous gifts and efforts to help the wounded and suffering of the Russian armies have been thoroughly appreciated.

On behalf of the Russian Red Cross Society.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE BRANCH OF STORES AND DEPÔTS, RUSSIAN SOCIETY OF THE RED CROSS, TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR

25th Nov.,/8 Dec., 1916.

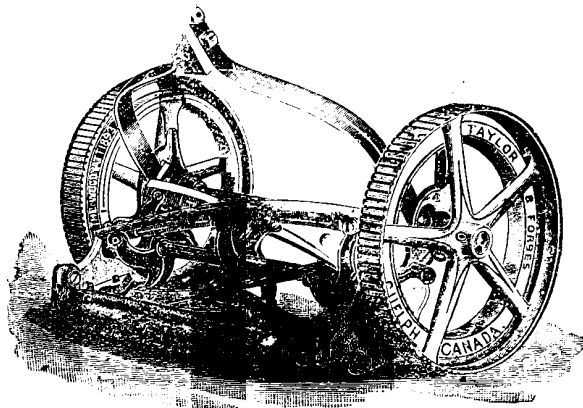
In view of the fact that the Russian Society of the Red Cross continues to receive offerings from the British and Canadian branches of the Red Cross, and also from the Director of the Voluntary Organizations in London, the Central Administration of the Russian Red Cross having heard at a meeting on November 18th my report regarding the offerings which we receive from the above mentioned organizations, instructed me to bear His Britannic Majesty's Embassy to express to these organizations the deep and sincere gratitude of the Russian Red Cross for their generosity and sympathy towards Russia and the Glorious Russian Troops.

In communicating the above I take the liberty of expressing at the same time my own heartfelt gratitude to the British and Canadian Societies of the Red Cross and the Voluntary Organization in London and to all those who have interested themselves in the great work of aiding the Russian troops and lightening their sufferings, which interest is so clearly expressed by the offerings which we continually receive.

FROM DUDLEY C. DURRANT 75640, 29TH CAN. INF. BATT., PRISONER OF WAR AT GIessen :

Feb. 11th, 1918.

Just a card to inform you that my parcels are arriving very regularly and are quite complete up-to-date. I also wish to congratulate you on the splendid contents of same. We find the macaroni and rice a very welcome and nourishing acquisition. Many thanks and very best wishes from yours very sincerely, DUDLEY C. DURRANT



TAYLOR-FORBES' LAWN MOWERS

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Toronto and Winnipeg; or any Edison Dealer

The Society has received a great many letters from Prisoners of War, who are now interned in Holland after being in Germany for three years. The following are extracts from some of these letters :

"You will be glad to know I have been here now a little over a week and it is just like heaven.

"I am writing these few lines in order to thank you and your staff for the splendid manner in which you have looked after my interests during my long period of captivity in Germany."

"Now that we are free from barbed wire, sauerkraut and other delectable things of German production, with which we have been worried for nearly three years, I beg to again thank you and the C.R.C.S. for the many favors which I have received at your hands during the time I have been a prisoner of war. No one but a prisoner of war can appreciate what all these good things meant to us, in fact if it had not been for you people "back home" I question if some of us would ever have seen the outside of Germany again.

"I certainly must congratulate you on the way things have been carried out. I don't think there is a committee going that has anything on the C.R.C.S."

"I would like also to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the great work done by the Canadian Red Cross for the officers, N.C.O.'s and men, prisoners of war in Germany. In addition to the material comfort the knowledge that they are not forgotten helps them—particularly the men—to bear up against the great hardships which many of them have to suffer. The work of the ladies and their many kindnesses will never be forgotten by those unfortunate enough to be prisoners of war."

"I am writing now that I have been exchanged to Holland a few words of thanks for the way in which I was looked after by the Red Cross during my "stay" in Germany. During the whole time since the new parcel system started I received all my numbers regularly. One doesn't realize until one leaves Germany how well the British prisoner of war is provided for."

"I cannot rid myself of a feeling of indebtedness to everybody and feel that I should like to be able to do something for you. Should there be anything which I can do for you here believe me, that no matter how small or how big it may be it will be my greatest pleasure to give it my special attention."

"Just a few lines to tell you that I have been exchanged to Holland. Now I must begin to thank you and all of your assistants who were so good and kind to me during my captivity. I can assure you that I appreciate all that you have done for me ; there were a few times I complained and I am very sorry for doing so. The Canadian boys who have been left behind have asked me to write and tell you that their parcels cannot be beaten, they are about the best that come to Germany ; the contents are quite substantial, something there is much need of there, as I can assure you the conditions in a 'Prisoners of War Camp' are in an awful way. Some camps are better than others, but at the same time they are all bad."

"I can merely say that we owe our condition and release from Germany only to one organization, and that is the Canadian Red Cross Society ; also prisoners of war will tell you all the same, without food from England we should not have lived to have crossed the Frontier."

"Just a line to convey my thanks to you for the noble way in which you have treated me whilst I was in Germany. I can tell you we all looked forward to the parcels, and I can safely say they were very well selected and just what one requires."

"I feel it impossible to convey to you my gratitude for the kindness and thoughtfulness you have shown to me during my stay in Germany as a prisoner of war, and I assure you I attribute my good health while in Germany to the fact that I received the parcels sent from the Canadian Red Cross Society in such good condition and containing such wholesome food."

"Please accept my very sincere thanks for your goodness to me and comrades while I was in Germany. I hate to think what our life would have been without your aid."

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Montreal

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FROM A CANADIAN PRISONER OF WAR

I have the pleasure of acknowledging receipt of three parcels of provisions, also parcel containing safety razors, brush, soap, mitts, etc., for which very many thanks.

It is indeed good of you to take so much trouble for one whom you do not know, and I can assure you the parcels are greatly appreciated. Apart from the contents being acceptable, it is good to know those that are at home are thinking of us; it is here where one realizes how much the ladies of Canada are doing in this conflict. They are bearing their part as much as any man who has shouldered the rifle, and they deserve all the gratitude of the men in the line, to say nothing of the prisoners of war.

You may be interested to know that we are treated as well as can be expected, and our quarters are as comfortable as circumstances allow.

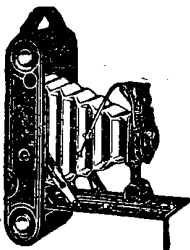
I am out on a working party and come into touch with many of the civil population, who treat us well enough. I find the chief difficulty here is the language. However, if I am here long enough I guess I will learn it.

Now I guess I will conclude, or you will be tired of reading. If you have the time to spare I should be pleased to receive a few lines from you or perhaps you have some friend who would like to write to a prisoner. I have very few friends and therefore receive very little mail.

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Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall.....	275 00
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Additional subscriptions.....	85 00
Interest Account.....	622 35
Grand total.....	\$14,011 42



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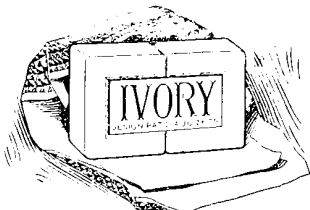
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To England 60c. To France 75c.

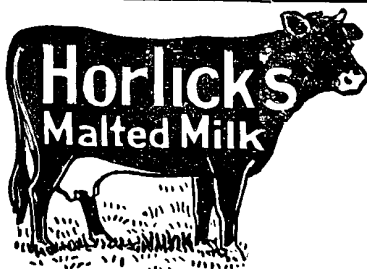
No. 3—1000 Tuckett's Ar-Na or T & B Cigarettes.

To England \$3.90 To France \$3.60

Particulars of other packages gladly sent upon request. Special arrangements made with Societies, Associations, etc., wishing to send large quantities overseas for general distribution to the Canadian soldiers.

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