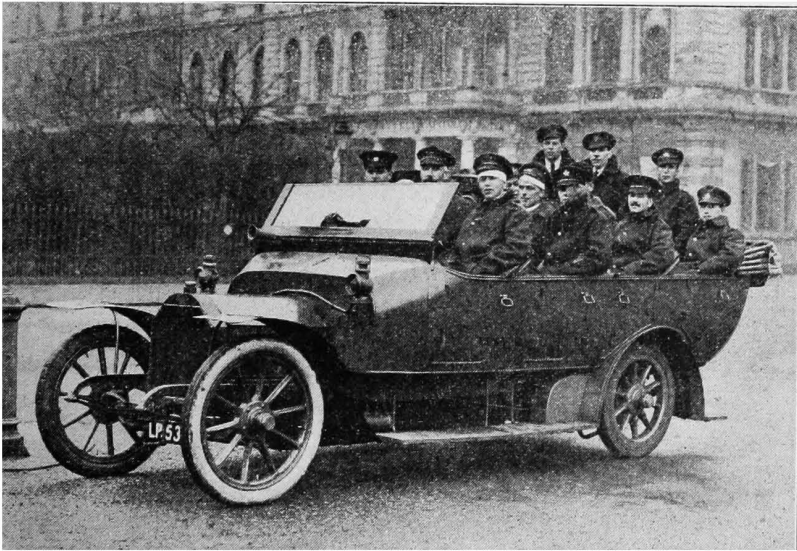




Canadian Red Cross Society



Some of Our Wounded Enjoying a Drive in one of the Motors provided
by the Drives and Entertainment Department of the
Society, in London

The Canadian Red Cross Society

Patrons :

H.E. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, K.G., *Governor-General of Canada*
F.M., H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.C.

President :

HER EXCELLENCY THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE

Chairman : LT.-COL. NOEL G. L. MARSHALL

Executive Committee :

MR. F. GORDON OSLER, <i>Hon. Treas.</i>	MR. K. J. DUNSTAN
MRS. H. P. PLUMPTRE	LT.-COL. A. E. GOODERHAM
MR. BEVERLEY MACINNES	BRIG.-GEN. HON. JAMES MASON
MR. JOHN T. SMALL, <i>Hon. Solicitor</i>	LT.-COL. R. W. LEONARD
BRIG.-GEN. SIR JOHN GIBSON	DR. J. W. ROBERTSON, C.M.G.
K.C.M.G.	MR. W. R. MILLER
SURG.-GEN. G. STERLING	HON. FEATHERSTON OSLER
RYERSON, M.D.	MISS GERTRUDE BROCK
	<i>Associate Members</i>

HEAD OFFICE IN CANADA—56 Church Street, Toronto

Secretarial Staff : MRS. H. P. PLUMPTRE

MR. BEVERLEY MACINNES

MISS HELEN MOWAT, *Assistant Secretary*

Mailing Department : MISS GERTRUDE BROCK, *Superintendent*

MISS ELSIE LOCKHART GORDON, *Assistant Superintendent*

Emergency Department : MISS FRANCES CAMPBELL, *Superintendent*

MISS WRAGGE, *Assistant Superintendent*

Packing Department Captains—MRS. BASIL MORPHY, MRS. A. J. BROWNING,

MRS. CECIL C. KING, MISS MAUD E. GAGEN

Fruit Kitchen, Hamilton : DR. STORMS, MR. F. MACBETH, MRS. GAULD

Advisers to the Executive : Hospital Supplies—MISS JEAN I. GUNN

Textiles—MR. T. D. WARDLAW

Advertisements—MR. J. J. GIBBONS

Sphagnum Moss—DR. J. B. PORTER

OVERSEAS OFFICE—York Hotel, Berners Street, London, W.

Hon. President of War Committee : H.R.H. PRINCESS PATRICIA

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

Assistant Commissioners :

LADY DRUMMOND (England)

CAPT. DAVID LAW (France)

Information Bureau : LADY DRUMMOND

Inquiry : MISS ERIKA BOVEY

Parcels : MRS. DAVID FRASER

Newspapers : MRS. GIBB CARSLY

Drives and Entertainments : MISS SHILLINGTON AND MISS PERRY

Prisoners of War Department : MRS. RIVERS BULKELEY

Shorncliffe Depot : MR. AND MRS. HARCOURT VERNON

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

Head Office: 56 CHURCH ST., TORONTO

No. 36

BULLETIN

MAY, 1918

NOTES

We have to record important changes in the personnel of our staff overseas. In March, Colonel Bryan vacated his position as Assistant Commissioner in England in order to join the staff of Lord Beaverbrook, a position for which his previous experience as a journalist made him peculiarly fitted. While regretting the loss of so valuable an officer, the Commissioner felt obliged to accept Colonel Bryan's decision, and the Executive Committee concurred in this view ; placing on record a resolution regarding the valuable services rendered to the Society by Colonel Bryan during his tenure of office.

In April the Executive Committee received with regret the resignation of the Chief Commissioner overseas, Colonel C. A. Hodgetts, C.M.G. Colonel Hodgetts on his appointment was faced with the difficult task of organizing an entirely new department of the Society's work, and he attacked his duty with courage and diligence. He was eminently fortunate in his choice of assistants, as the Society owes to him the appointment not only of his Assistant Commissioners, Colonel Bryan and Colonel Blaylock, but also the invaluable services of Lady Drummond and Mrs. Rivers-Bulkeley.

At the last meeting of the Council 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 a half years, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Society to Colonel Hodgetts."

THE RED CROSS AND THE C.A.M.C.

With very great satisfaction we record the request which has recently reached the Canadian Red Cross Society from the headquarters of the Medical Service in Canada for the co-operation of the Society with the Department in providing for the care of the returned soldiers while in the hospitals directed by the Army Medical Corps.

General Fotheringham and General Carleton Jones have always shown themselves most sympathetic friends of the Society, and have a very thorough knowledge of its methods and the scope of its work.

It is proposed that the Society shall erect and manage in certain places Recreation Rooms in connection with the new hospitals of the C.A.M.C., and shall also carry out other work along recreational lines.

The Executive Committee has appointed Colonel R. W. Leonard to act as its representative in discussing these plans with the Army Medical Service, and we trust before long to have more detailed information to lay before our workers, who will, no doubt, welcome this new avenue for service.

NOTES FROM "THE BRITISH PRISONER OF WAR" (THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL PRISONERS OF WAR COMMITTEE)

"The children's party at Ruhleben was a great success. Early in November the Central Committee arranged to make a despatch of Christmas fare and Christmas toys for the children, about 200 in number, of prisoners interned in the camp at Ruhleben. It had been arranged with the Captain of the Camp that these children should be invited into one of the barracks and there be given a Christmas feast, and receive their presents. About \$250 worth of such presents, Christmas puddings, etc., was sent to the camp, and the German authorities kindly had it forwarded by fast train to Ruhleben in time for Christmas."

"The work of the Central Committee sometimes branches out in unusual directions. For example, we have supplied a wig to a bald man in one of the camps in Germany. A French prisoner, a professional wig-maker from Paris, measured him for it, and it was made strictly according to instructions received. When it reached the wearer it proved, despite the Paris friend's help, to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches short behind, and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch short in the side locks, which was mortifying to all concerned. We are glad to learn that the prisoner has been allowed to go back to his camp from command, in order to have his wig adjusted by the Parisian expert."

"The (Government) Prisoners of War Department officially requested us to supply a stock of theatrical properties, numbering hundreds of articles, for the use of prisoners at Ruhleben. These included a supply of smart blouses, strong corsets, and lisle thread stockings, grease paints, haresfeet crape hair, beards, and moustaches. We have interested the theatrical world in this consignment, and hope to collect all the articles asked for, and to forward them to the camp as soon as they arrive. It may also interest subscribers to know that lately we have presented a ventriloquist's dummy to one of the prisoners' camps in Germany."

VISITS AND DRIVES FOR RETURNED WOUNDED

The Society is doing some special work in Montreal for the returned men there. A short account of it follows :

"We advertised in the papers for cars, preferably driven by owners. So far sixteen ladies and thirteen men are driving for us, but shortly we hope to have a hundred cars at our disposal.

The drivers all wear the Red Cross badge on their arm and on their cap ; several of the girls have a very smart uniform.

The driving is entirely under the Army Medical Corps. The Driving Committee rings up each hospital at 5 p.m., and asks at what hour and how many cars are required for the next day, and they do their best to supply them.

The men are often taken to tea when out, and seem to enjoy their drives very much. The Army Medical Corps are using our cars now to move men from different hospitals, and to take them to the Technical Schools, etc.

Our Visiting Committee for visiting returned men in hospital has been very successful. One visitor can take care of twenty men, write letters for them and give various comforts. We supply them with smokes, games, socks, heavy walking sticks, gloves, soap,

shaving soap, razors, writing materials, stamps and many other things. We have even given an air bed and down pillows to make a dying man comfortable. We always give fruit, sweets and any necessary delicacy, for which we have a separate fund, and we try to help the men in various ways.

SUBSTANTIAL SYMPATHY

The following letter was received from Mr. Henry P. Davison, Chairman of the War Council of the American Red Cross :

National Headquarters American Red Cross,
Washington, D.C., April 3rd, 1918.

We take great pleasure in handing you herewith a copy of a resolution adopted by the War Council of The American National Red Cross on April 3rd, 1918.

From this enclosure you will note that the War Council has endeavored to express officially and substantially on behalf of the American National Red Cross, which includes in its membership a very large proportion of the American people, an earnest feeling of sympathy and admiration for the part taken by the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian people in the war in which both your people and ours are now engaged.

It is our hope that you will find it possible to devote the contribution of \$500,000 to the relief of Canadian soldiers at the front, although we wish it understood that the gift is without restrictions.

Please allow us to assure the Canadian Red Cross, through you, of our cordial feelings of brotherhood in the cause which occupies the minds and attention of all at the present time, and to express the hope that the American National Red Cross will be able in time to achieve proportionately the fine results which your organization has obtained through the past four years.

Resolution

"Whereas, the American people profoundly and gratefully recognize the devotion of the Canadian people and the armed forces of Canada in the great war and are deeply appreciative of the spirit of heroism and self-sacrifice with which so many Americans have fought and died as members of the Canadian forces during the past years, and it is highly appropriate that the American Red Cross should extend to the Canadian soldiers a measure of assistance toward their relief and comfort, and

Whereas, such tribute cannot be translated more serviceably or appropriately than by a gift through the Canadian Red Cross, and it is the desire of the American Red Cross to afford substantial recognition of the sentiment of brotherhood and sympathy which pervades this country in this present crisis of human affairs.

Now, therefore, it is hereby voted : That from the Red Cross War Fund, the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, (\$500,000) be and it is hereby appropriated as a contribution to the Canadian Red Cross to be devoted as directly as may be to relief work among the Canadian soldiers at the front, as a gift from the American Red Cross."

The following reply was sent by Colonel Marshall, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Society, when on the Canadian War Mission to Washington :

Canadian War Mission,
Washington, D.C.,
April 3rd, 1918.

I have the honor to acknowledge your esteemed favor of April 3rd, and the copy attached thereto, of resolution passed by the War Council, at their meeting held yesterday morning.

On behalf of the Canadian Red Cross Society, may I say the gift accompanying the letter, viz. : Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, (\$500,000) is greatly appreciated and will materially assist us in the great work we have in hand, the alleviation of the sufferings of the wounded and sick Canadian soldiers.

Much as we appreciate the generous contribution of the magnificent sum above named, I am sure the Canadian people will appreciate still more the spirit of your letter and the expressions contained in the resolution.

On behalf of the Canadian Red Cross Society, I shall be glad if you will convey to the members of your Society and to the American people, our sincere thanks.

(Signed) NOEL MARSHALL.

THANKS FROM THE SERBIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE FOR CASES OF
SUPPLIES GIVEN BY OUR SOCIETY

February 22nd, 1918.

"I am so glad to be able to tell you that we are sending your last thirty cases off to some 450 Serbian prisoners on Monday, supplementing here and there where necessary to make up numbers.

I can't tell you how thankful we are to have these good, warm, well-made clothes. They reach the prisoners about six weeks after they leave us, and we get most gratifying acknowledgments from the camps, often from the particular Red Cross in the enemy countries, and always from the Serbian Committee there each camp having its own little centre.

A LORRY DRIVER

Sergeant-Major Raddermacher, C.A.S.C., gave an interesting talk in the Society's Emergency Work Rooms on April 11th. The Sergeant has been overseas for three years and a half, and drove Canadian Red Cross lorries from base to front line for fourteen months. He is now home on furlough as a member of the First Contingent.

He explained the system by which supplies are indented for and delivered, asserting that there is no possible leakage of the goods from the time they are unloaded at the quay in Boulogne, till they come to the hands of the medical officer, who is in need of them. There is also no delay in the delivery of supplies; even Field Ambulances, since the establishment of Advance Stores, can at any time obtain supplies within an hour. And this is in spite of the fact that all indents must be signed by the Assistant Director Medical Services, and often by the Director Medical Services as well, in order that no extravagant demands may be filled.

The lorry drivers, during heavy fighting at the front, often work twenty-four hours at a stretch, returning to the base at one or two in the morning, where they immediately reload their lorry and set off again for the front. "Our one idea," said Sergeant Raddermacher "is to get the supplies where they are needed, and at once."

GROWTH OF THE SOCIETY IN SASKATCHEWAN

The Provincial Branch in Saskatchewan has been peculiarly active in organizing local branches throughout the province. In 1915, there were ninety branches, and in 1916, one hundred and ninety, and last year the number reached three hundred and thirty-three.

A corresponding increase is evident in the report of funds collected. Apart from money raised and used by local branches for their own material and expenses, the receipts at the Headquarters for the Province last year, were \$435,129.49, roughly twice the amount raised the year before, and nearly nine times that collected in 1915.

An interesting feature in the organization of this Province last year was the forming of Junior Branches in the schools. About fifty-seven of these were started in September. The fee was fixed at 25 cents, the idea being to create interest amongst the children, rather than merely to raise money.

There are also four Indian Branches, those at the Agency of File Hills, Pelly, Qu'Appelle and Hurricane Hills, the chief at the latter agency Chief Carry-the-Kettle, being a Life Member of the Society.

As we are often asked for new ways of raising money, we may mention here that the Saskatchewan Branch, through its local branches raised last year about \$4,250 by means of the collection and sale of scrap-iron.

PROFESSOR AMAR'S APPARATUS

The Society's Quebec Provincial Branch has installed an ingenious apparatus invented by Professor Amar of Paris, by means of which the exact muscular and nervous power of patients who have lost a limb, may be determined. It is considered a very great help in the functional and professional re-education of such soldiers.

Professor Amar, previous to this war, devoted fifteen years of work to perfecting and improving the apparatus. After the outbreak of the war, his method was adopted by Belgium, also by Italy, who installed three sets of the apparatus, and Russia, after investigation, ordered fifteen sets. Lloyd George sent Sir Henry Norman to France to study this most important question, and he reported favorably on Professor Amar's system. At that time there was only one set of the apparatus in England, which was in the Granville Canadian Special Hospital.

RETURN TO CANADA ALL PROFITS ON CANADIAN BUSINESS

The following is a letter, enclosing a cheque, received by the Quebec Branch of the Society, from the Manager of the Shawnee Mower Company of the United States:

"Your Society may be aware that in accordance with instructions from our principal stockholder, Mr. Chas. C. Worthington, we are to return to any Canadian war relief association that may be selected, such proportion of the proceeds of our sales of mowing machines in Canada, as fairly constitutes the full profit on these particular transactions.

It is his desire not to have this Company, which he controls, profit pecuniarily from any Canadian business during the continuation of the present war. He hopes to express in this small measure his personal admiration as an American for the noble sacrifices the Canadian people have made in this struggle, and for the example of loyalty and devotion to our mutual mother country, which they are exhibiting to the world."

CANADA

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Nos. 149, 150.

HELD ON MARCH 25TH AND APRIL 2ND, 1918, RESPECTIVELY

Present : Lt.-Col. Noel Marshall (Chairman), Mr. K. J. Dunstan, Brig.-Gen. Hon. James Mason, Mr. J. T. Small, K.C., Mr. Featherstone Osler, K.C., Col. A. E. Gooderham, Lt.-Col. W. R. Leonard, Mr. W. R. Miller, Mr. F. Gordon Osler, Mrs. H. P. Plumptre and Mr. B. S. MacInnes.

RESIGNATION OF MRS. A. E. GOODERHAM

A letter from Mrs. A. E. Gooderham of March 11th, tendering her resignation from the Executive Committee was read. Her resignation was received and accepted with regret. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Dunstan, seconded by Mrs. Plumptre, carried unanimously and ordered to be communicated to Mrs. Gooderham :

Resolved : That the Executive Committee of the Canadian Red Cross Society has received with great regret the resignation of Mrs. A. E. Gooderham on account of other patriotic duties.

In accepting Mrs. Gooderham's resignation, the Executive Committee desires to place on record their appreciation of Mrs. Gooderham's personal efforts on behalf of the Society, as well as the generous support afforded to the Society's work by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

WINNIPEG CAMPAIGN

The Chairman reported on his visit to Winnipeg, and stated that the Manitoba Branch expected to raise \$600,000 in their campaign starting April 11th. He also thought and the committee agreed, that it was most advisable that some members of the Executive should visit the West in the near future.

The following cables from the Commissioner were read :

London, March 17th.
"Notwithstanding strongest protest supported by High Commissioner and Minister Overseas, Office of Works has commandeered our premises, 14 Cockspur St., for Ministry of Munitions. Providing ample accommodation for all departments at York Hotel, Berners St.—HODGETTS."

ELECTRIC PLANTS

London, March 23rd.

"London committee recommend expenditure approximately sixteen hundred pounds for six further portable Electric plants, France.—HODGETTS."

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING

The date of the first quarterly meeting of the Central Council was discussed. It was decided that it should be called for Tuesday, May 7th, at 10.30 a.m.

MR. H. J. SMITH'S DEATH

Mrs. Plumptre submitted a letter from Dr. J. B. Porter, dated March 19th, and her reply with reference to the death by accident of Mr. H. J. Smith, Director of Sphagnum work of the American Red Cross, which occurred while on a trip for the purpose of assisting the Canadian Red Cross Sphagnum Committee's investigations. Mrs. Plumptre's telegram to Miss Smith was cordially approved and the Recording Secretary was requested to communicate to Miss Smith the regrets and sympathy of the Executive Committee.

ANTICIPATION OF HEAVY CASUALTIES

In view of the heavy casualties which would result from the present severe fighting, the Committee decided to cable the Commissioner as follows :

March 25th.

"Executive Committee met to-day, instructed me to cable you not to let wounded suffer for lack of anything we can provide.—MARSHALL."

OFFICERS' REST HOME, FRANCE

The following cable from the Commissioner was read :

London, March 28th.

"General Currie, Colonel Ross, D.M.S. France, Colonel Elder, urge our establishing Officers' Rest Home accommodating seventy. Blaylock strongly approves and Committee approve in principle, but unable rent premises. Could buy fully equipped, well-situated suitable hotel, Paris Plage, built 1911, for Ten Thousand Pounds. Blaylock thinks price reasonable and no loss likely reselling. Maintenance estimated about Fifteen Pounds daily. Cable your views, and if you approve we will take no action without careful consideration.—HODGETT."

This was approved by Committee, subject to approval of War Committee and Commissioner.

HART HOUSE

A letter from Dr. A. E. Bott, dated March 28th, with reference to the possibility of a further grant in aid of re-education work at Hart House was read. The Chairman reported on an interview with Dr. Bott on the subject. It was moved by Mr. Dunstan and carried unanimously that a further grant of \$2,000 be authorized and paid.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED AT HEADQUARTERS C.R.C.S.

	Month of March, 1918	First Quarter. 1918	First Quarter. 1917
Yukon Territory.....	\$ 154 10	\$ 1,825 21	\$ 1,888 40
British Columbia.....	3,410 27	14,242 96	15,641 34
Alberta.....	24,176 00	44,249 00	32,403 00
Saskatchewan.....	42,063 00	167,408 00	65,590 76
Manitoba.....	31,466 41	52,388 26	20,908 43
Ontario.....	70,891 55	184,612 67	86,869 95
Quebec.....	26,020 06	43,360 02	13,872 00
New Brunswick.....	565 00	1,907 00	5,208 50
Nova Scotia.....	1,015 35	2,389 80
Prince Edward Island.....	1,000 00	2,080 00
United States.....	1,006 35	4,545 41	47,878 15
Totals.....	\$ 199,752 74	\$ 516,553 88	\$ 294,730 33

CANADIAN WAR CONTINGENTS ASSOCIATION

Statement of Field Comforts shipped from St. John during March, 1918 :

Pairs of Socks, 58,057 ; Towels, 5,092 ; Day Shirts, 1,748 ; Gauze Shirts, 628 ; Sponges, 606 ; T. Caps, 426 ; Sundries, 168 Cases, 1 Crate Gum, Confectionery, Cigarettes, Comforts, Etc.

OVERSEAS (ENGLAND)

REPORT OF INFORMATION BUREAU

(LADY DRUMMOND)

MARCH, 1918

On Saturday morning, April 27th, Lady Drummond accompanied by Miss Erika Bovey visited the Canadian Hospital at Basingstoke on the special invitation of the Matron and Visitors' Committee. This is the present home of No. 4 General Hospital.

This large modern brick structure was originally intended for an Insane Asylum and was not quite finished at the outbreak of war. On the return from Salonika of the University of Toronto Hospital Unit, this building was taken over by them and equipped as a hospital with accommodation for 1,000 patients. Every modern device has been used for the economy of labor and food—the kitchens, larders, bakeries and laundry are all tiled in white and in every way admirably equipped.

The huge refectory or dining-room with its vaulted roof is like a public hall ; here all evening entertainments are given. This, however, means a somewhat hurried meal, and a rush in changing the rooms for seats ; on this account a large recreation hut is being erected by the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Captain McDonald, who arranges all entertainments and lectures for the men, has been corresponding with Miss Drayton of the Victoria League, who has kindly undertaken to send a lecturer to Basingstoke once a fortnight. Miss Drayton herself said to Lady

Drummond recently, that everyone found it a pleasure to address a gathering of Canadian soldiers, they were all so intelligent and eager to learn.

On the arrival of Lady Drummond and Miss Bovey at the Basingstoke Hospital, they lunched with the matron in the nurses' dining-room, after which they were conducted to a large hall at some distance from the main building, where there were rows of long tables covered with specimens of handiwork wrought by the men themselves, under the instruction and supervision of our devoted band of Red Cross visitors in Basingstoke. At their head is the Hon. Mrs. Stopford, who before her marriage was a Canadian from Nova Scotia.

Lady Drummond pronounced the exhibition open, congratulating the men upon their dexterity and skill and the taste which they displayed in the sorting and blending of colors. There was also some very fine basket work, and some few very creditable drawings. The men were there in crowds, and the list of prizes was read from the platform by Captain Middleton, Quartermaster of the hospital.

Miss Erika Bovey followed with a short account of the methods followed by the Bureau of the Red Cross Society in their work, beginning with the sending from hospital of the blue cards until the time when the men were visited regularly, had their letters written and so forth.

Mrs. Stopford and the officers of the hospital concurred in saying that a very noticeable improvement had come over the health and spirits of the men since the teaching of the various handicrafts had become an institution, the Canadian Red Cross, through the Commissioner Colonel Hodgetts, providing all the material. The saying now is that it's the men who do the work who get well, this being particularly true in cases of shell-shock.

Lady Drummond tried in vain to persuade some of the men to sell her their work, but it was evidently being treasured up for their wives and sweethearts. Before she left, however, two or three of the men came up to her and begged her to accept a basket, a bag, or some other little piece of work of their own as a memento of the occasion. To all it was a very happy day. Miss Hartley, the matron, who combines sympathy and charm with capability, was mistress of ceremonies, and gave the visitors a cosy five o'clock tea in her own sanctum before they returned to London by the evening train.

We should like to refer in this report, to the splendid work being accomplished by the War Library—originated and carried on by Mrs. H. M. Gaskell, C.B.E., and affiliated with the British Red Cross and Order of St. John.

This Library supplies books and magazines to all sick and wounded soldiers and sailors in hospitals and hospital ships at home and abroad. This was the very first war appeal to be made, and the public responded generously to it, contributions coming in so rapidly that they were obliged to call in the assistance of Dr. Haberg Wright, Librarian of the London Library, who, with five of his staff gave gladly of their time and helped in the sorting and classification of all the hundreds of volumes and papers that continually poured in.

The work has grown enormously having various departments—52 voluntary workers in the London office alone—and 40 different

centres in England. It gives one some idea of the work accomplished when we know that fortnightly packages are sent out regularly to 253 hospitals, hospital trains, water-ambulances, rest camps, convalescent camps and Casualty Clearing ambulances in France, containing literature for every taste from the smart set penny novelette to Montaigne's "Essays," and Wordsworth's "Prelude."

In addition to this from 20,000 to 30,000 books and magazines are sent out monthly to East Africa, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Salonika, Malta and Bombay. Every three weeks each hospital ship, Ambulance, Barge, Casualty Clearing Station, Rest Camp, Club for hospital staffs, etc., is supplied with fresh literature and large depôts in Boulogne, Rouen, and Havre are kept stocked. The Cross Channel Hospital Ship Service has constant supplies, and fresh literature is sent every voyage to the Transport Hospital Ships in case of infection.

Mrs. Gaskell said they had been interested to note the different appetite for books of the overseas contingents as compared with the Imperials—the Colonials preferring books of reference—a most excellent sign.

The War Library still depends wholly on the charity of the public, and are always glad of contributions of any kind. Our admiration for Mrs. Gaskell and her untiring efforts is unbounded, surely her institution is a noble one and worthy of every support.

1. *Enquiry for Wounded and Missing*.—Miss Erika Bovey.

(a) *Visiting Section*.—Miss Rickards.

This section has grown to such an extent that we have been obliged to add several new visitors to our lists, many of the men asking for more than one visitor a week. Since our last report, numerous people have come to our Bureau asking to have the workings of this particular section explained, among them the Commandant of a prominent County V.A.D. detachment. Two of our hospital convenors, each of them having from 15 to 20 visitors under them, came up to London during the last week bringing most satisfactory reports of the visiting done in their particular district. At Warrington, a "Blighty Club" has been opened by our Convenor, Lady Grenall, which will be a centre of rest, recreation and entertainment for wounded soldiers and sailors. There, they enjoy an excellent library, writing rooms, occasional concerts by local talent, and tea and biscuits which are given free of charge, light refreshments can also be obtained at a buffet. This Club is open daily from 2 till 7 p.m. The Club has already been visited by 3,600 men whose presence proves that the Club fills a long felt want in that district.

When Miss Choate paid her first visit to American soldiers, who had been serving with our armies, and are now in the Bearwood Convalescent Home at Wokingham, she was quite overcome by the reception they gave her. All her countrymen were lined up, the "Star Spangled Banner" was played, and the American National Anthem was sung. One of them said to Miss Choate, "If the American Red Cross do half of what the Canadian Red Cross have done for us, we'll be pretty lucky boys."

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

Three thousand four hundred and ninety-four letters written by hand and giving all possible details have been sent out to Canada since our last report. From 18 to 20 ladies are working daily in this section.

(c) *Recording of Officers Casualties*.—Mrs. Outerbridge.

The number of officers on our files is still increased by cases of tonsillitis, bronchitis and pneumonia, also several who were slightly wounded in recent London air raids.

(d) *Hospitality Section*.—Miss Elise Kingman.

One of our workers has just returned from a few days at our Officers Rest Home in Sidmouth, Devon, where she filled in a V.A.D. vacancy. We are glad to hear her report of the officers enjoyment of a large, airy, sunny, spotlessly clean house where they feel the atmosphere of home, and enjoy to the full plain but delicious food, large comfortable arm chairs, piano, gramophone, excellent golf links within five minutes of the house, and salt water baths. I cannot refrain from a word of praise of the Commandant Lady Allan and her six willing V.A.D.'s who work steadily and uncomplainingly to maintain the comfort that is enjoyed by all. A letter received from an officer who spent ten days at this home reads as follows: "Dear Miss.—May I call you an angel for sending me to this heavenly place? I had no idea that I was being drafted to the society of such charming people, I imagined I was going to some convalescent sort of place. I have really taken a new grip of life, in the last few days, and am now again as happy as a lark. As you seem to be such a good friend to us all, I am going to get the boys in France to name a trench ridge, crater, or something else after you."

(e) *Written Enquiries for Sick and Wounded*.—Miss Taylor.

This section is still busy looking up the many enquiries brought by the last Canadian mail. In so many cases relatives have lost track of one another owing to changes of hospital and sometimes changes at home; this has meant in many cases misunderstandings which we have been glad to straighten out. One case of this sort came to our notice last week. We were able to make explanations on both sides and gradually to restore peace; this week's mail brought us word of the marriage in Ottawa of the soldier in question, he having just returned to Canada.

(f) *Killed and Missing*.—Mrs. Ellissen.

Very many enquiries still continue about the Passchendaele casualties, and even of men who were missing before that, 100 having been received in this section in one mail, also several contributions, one of which was anonymous.

(g) *Verbal Enquiries*.—Mrs. O'Reilly.

So many people both men and women, soldiers and civilians come in to this section with requests of various kinds. The following letter from a soldier speaks for itself: "Only a few hours elapsed before I found that definite and effective action was being taken to have my request granted, and to-day, I received a wire saying that my hopes have been fulfilled. I now know to be a fact that which I have often heard that the Bureau of the Canadian Red Cross is one of the best organized and smoothest running organizations in England. I

saw a little of the inside workings while in Manchester, and it filled me with amazement, wonder and pride."

2. *Parcels Department*.—Mrs. David Fraser.

Since our last report, we have sent out to men in hospital 1,235 special requests ; 982 kit bags ; 213 parcels of fruit, and 13 parcels to our men in the R.N.C.V.R. Also from our special fund, we sent a baseball bat, two mittens and ball to the Manor War Hospital at Epsom.

3. *Drives and Entertainments*.—Miss Shillington and Miss Perry.

Owing to the continued kindness of Miss Adelina Levey, we have been able to bring a good deal of cheer and happiness into the lives of our officers and men. This kind lady gives nearly all of her time to wounded soldiers—most of them being Canadians, and no praise is too high for her generosity and thoughtfulness. At the dress rehearsal on Saturday of the new musical comedy "Flora" the entire house was filled with wounded officers and men, and a few nursing sisters. This was all arranged by Miss Levey, who kindly sent us 66 tickets for men, 16 of whom we sent from St. Dunstan's Hospital for the blind, and in addition to this, brought 50 men from the Ontario Military Hospital at Orpington, 30 officers from various hospitals and 15 Canadian sisters. On March 6th, Miss Levy again sent 18 tickets for the London Pavilion.

This department has taken advantage of the spell of warm sunny weather to keep our motors particularly busy, many men and officers having enjoyed drives.

Lady Greville kindly invited the men from the Ruskin Park Hospital to a musical entertainment and tea at her home.

Twenty-five men from the Massey-Harris Convalescent Home enjoyed an entertainment and tea at the Atlantic Union Central Hall, Westminster, and 18 from the London General were taken in a charabanc to Carpenters' Company's Hall, London Wall, for an entertainment and tea.

We have tried to include some of the repatriated prisoners in these entertainments.

One afternoon, Lady Drummond and Miss Shillington took two English repatriated prisoners for a motor drive. They had only arrived in England the day before and had not yet seen their people. They had been prisoners in Germany ever since the retreat from Mons in 1914, and thanks to the parcels sent by the British Red Cross had been kept in fairly good condition. Lady Drummond asked about the German "hate," and the reply was—"If anyone is harsh, it's the women, but of course they're so patriotic."

On account of the difficulty of getting taxis, we make a special point of calling for officers and men en route for Canada, taking them from their hospital to the train, and seeing them fairly started on their long journey to the envy of all other casualties whose favorite goal is Canada.

4. *Newspaper Department*.—Mrs. Gibb-Carsley.

Forty bags of papers and magazines were received in the last Canadian mail, but the supply of newspapers from Canada has been somewhat diminished (especially those sent otherwise than by the publishers) owing apparently to a misapprehension existing as to

the new Post Office regulations regarding newspapers. These may still be sent singly or in parcels up to 7 pounds in weight.

A special appeal from this department is made for weekly and other Canadian and American magazines, also daily papers from Vancouver, Hamilton, and London, Ontario, and all French-Canadian papers from Montreal.

Many lonely souls are discovered through this department as shown by the following letter : "Received your welcome papers and wish to thank you for the same. One gets so lonesome over here without friends, and a letter is worth its weight in gold, so if anyone cares to correspond with me, I will be glad to hear from them."

REPORT OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR DEPARTMENT MARCH, 9TH, 1918

A fortnight ago 300 prisoners were repatriated from Germany and amongst them were several Canadians. As a member of the Reception Committee, I had the pleasure of meeting them at St. Pancras Station the evening they arrived. Interest was added to the proceedings by two warnings of air raids, but happily in spite of a moon, these did not materialize and the whole thing went off without a hitch. As the first train steamed into the station at about 8.30 all the hooters and horns on the motors were sounded, all the engines in the station whistled and the Guards' Band which was in attendance struck up. It was really touching to see the joy on the faces of the men, not only at being back in "Blighty," many of them after three and a half years, but also at the warmth of their reception. The first people I saw were four Canadian officers, a chaplain and three medical officers. We all felt as if we were old friends meeting again. The Reception Committee went right through the train before any of the men left, and distributed cards to each man with the message of welcome from Their Majesties ; flowers were also distributed, and I had a box of Canadian cigarettes for each Canadian. The men were then sent off in motors and ambulances to King George Hospital. After a wait of some little time the second train came in and the same proceedings were gone through.

Two days later the Committee went to King George Hospital, where H.R.H. Princess Mary distributed cigarettes and chocolates and talked to many of the men. Later in the afternoon a sumptuous tea was given by the Hospital Committee, with a concert afterwards. H.R.H. Princess Patricia was present at the concert, and the tea, and also made a special point of meeting the Canadians who were too ill to take part. One man said to me he would almost be willing to go back in order to have another such reception.

During the week we had most interesting and helpful visits from the four officers who very kindly spared us a great deal of their time to help us in any way they could, with information and suggestions. They were more interesting than anyone we have seen back from Germany, as they had in their capacities as chaplain and doctors worked for many months in the men's camps and could therefore give most valuable information. I am very thankful to be able to say that the account they gave of our men and of what the

Canadian Red Cross is doing for them was very encouraging. All four officers said that they did not think the parcels could be improved upon, that they were arriving in the four camps where they had been, with unfailing regularity, and that as far as possible everything was being done for the men. They thought very few prisoners in Germany were as well provided for as the Canadians. It was a great pleasure to see what a pride they took in their Red Cross and in the generous subscriptions made in Canada by which alone the work is possible.

All the men who were able to be out have also been to see us, as well as another man who escaped. Also a party returned this week from Switzerland, amongst whom were four Canadians, have been to see us and gave us their experiences in Switzerland. Colonel Bryan's visit seems to have given a great deal of happiness and satisfaction to all Canadians there.

As a result of our talks with all these officers and men, I do not think that the Society can do better than carry on in the way they have been doing. The only really unsatisfactory matter concerns cigarettes, tobacco and soap, and of these I fear that a great deal that is sent never reaches the prisoners. This complaint is general and not limited to Canadians. It is impossible to buy tobacco or soap in Germany, so it is not surprising that these articles should often prove irresistible to the Germans.

A great deal of disappointment seems to be felt with regard to the Personal Parcel, the contents that might be sent were not of an interesting description to start with, and people were disappointed that another list was not issued for the second quarter. The suspension of the privilege of sending these parcels at all was seriously contemplated, as many people unfortunately abused the privilege, but it was decided that it might continue and has been extended to prisoners in neutral countries. As we realized how long it would be before parcels could be sent from Canada, as it was necessary for relatives there to first obtain coupons from England. We sent a muffler and a pair of mitts to each Canadian whose next of kin was in Canada. Otherwise these useful articles would not have been received till the winter was over.

We have received a number of acknowledgments for the large consignment of books and games which we sent with the munificent Christmas gift from the Vancouver Committee. These things gave a very great deal of happiness and satisfaction.

REPORT OF THE CANADIAN RED CROSS, SHORNCLIFFE DEPOT (MR. AND MRS. HARCOURT VERNON)

FEBRUARY 15th TO MARCH 1st, 1918.

There is not very much to report since the middle of February.

No. 11 Canadian General Hospital, Moore Barracks ; Military Hospital, Shorncliffe ; West Cliff Canadian Eye and Ear Hospital ; the Brigade Hospitals at Somerset Barracks, East Sandling, and Ashford ; No. 13 Canadian General Hospital, Hastings ; V.A.D. Hospitals at Ashford, Lenham, Rolvenden, and Abbots Barton, Canterbury ; have received supplies from this Depot.

We have been very busy with the local hospitals, and a good many of the Commandants of outlying hospitals have come to us. Also we have had the pleasure of a visit from the A.D.M.S.

The Canadian Ordnance Corps at Ashford asked us to visit the new hospital they have opened. It is in the nature of a Brigade Hospital, serious cases being passed on to the V.A.D. Hospital close by. We found them very busy with soap and water and new paint, and in need of help. We left them certain supplies, and we have arranged to look after them in future just as we do the other Brigade Hospitals.

Two Convalescent Hospitals have just been closed, both Imperial, but admitting Canadian patients only, The Glack, Deal, and The Beach, Walmer. The patients left with the greatest regret. Difficulty of transport is the reason for doing away with these useful little hospitals. In each case Canadian Red Cross supplies in store or in use were given to Warden House, Deal, where there are at present a great many Canadians, or sent back to us through Monks Horton, to which Hospital The Glack and The Beach were auxiliary.

We had the pleasure of seeing 470 men off for Canada, and giving them little Red Cross comforts for their journey.

We have two new orderlies to replace two C.A.M.C. men, who according to a new regulation are not to do anything other than strictly C.A.M.C. work. We have retained Sergeant Bristow, who has been with us since 1915, and who is quite invaluable, and the new men promise to be satisfactory.

REPORT OF C.R.C.S. HOSPITALS IN ENGLAND

Showing average number of patients in hospital from February 15th to March 1st :

<i>Hospital</i>	<i>No. of Patients</i>
Duchess of Connaught Canadian Red Cross, Taplow..	690
King's Canadian Red Cross Special Hospital, Bushey Park.....	403
Canadian Red Cross Special Hospital, Buxton.....	271

REPORT OF THE C.R.C.S. NURSES' REST HOME

66 ENNISMORE GARDENS, LONDON S.W.—MARCH 1st, 1918

The sisters in residence have presented the Home with a beautiful bird and cage which is an added charm.

Lady Drummond called on the evening of February 7th, and expressed her delight with arrangements. The sisters expressed to her their appreciation of the kindness of the Canadian Red Cross in offering them so comfortable a Home.

During the month, through the kindness of the Duke of Bedford, Lady Drummond and the efforts of Miss Kirkwood, the sisters have been able to go to several theatres. This diversion is much appreciated.

During the month 25 sisters have been in residence for varying lengths of time from one day to the whole month. I attach a letter received from one of the sisters after she left us.

"Just a line to thank you *immensely* for your extreme kindness to me, while I was with you at 66 Ennismore Gardens, and I must say that I cannot begin to express my gratitude or to tell you how much I *really* enjoyed being there.

It is very quiet here at Lenham, but our professional duties are extremely light indeed.

We again enjoy the luxury of having plenty of Red Cross Supplies here to keep our patients warm, etc., and I cannot figure out what we would do without them.

Hoping you are well and wishing you the very best of good luck, etc.; thanking you *immensely* for your kindness to me. I am——."

ANNUAL REPORT

(Continued from Bulletin No. 35.)

WAREHOUSE AND SHIPPING OPERATIONS

GREAT BRITAIN

LIEUT.-COL. CLAUDE G. BRYAN, Assistant Commissioner.

(For the 12 Months Ending October 31st, 1917)

Before dealing in detail with the cases received into and distributed out of the London warehouses during the period under review, I would point out that at the present moment and for some time past we have been operating four warehouses with a total area of over 30,000 square feet, including the bonded warehouse and office accommodation. In these warehouses there is a total staff employed of 26, whose duties are subdivided as follows: clerical, 4; warehouse duties, 18; lorry drivers, 4. Of the 26 before mentioned, 15 are convalescent soldiers detailed to us for light duty and the remainder are civilians.

In previous years we have relied to a large extent upon the services of shipping brokers, such as Messrs. Barnes & Company, in the handling of our inward shipments. This year, however, we have been able practically to dispense with all outside services of this character and the result has been the clearance of cases without delay and a very considerable saving in demurrage and other similar charges. This year also we have run as many as four lorries at one time, and have thereby been enabled to reduce the very large cartage costs which have always represented such a considerable percentage of our expenditure.

In proof of this it may be pointed out that whereas the cartage costs for the previous year amounted to \$3,355, for the year under review these were reduced to \$745.

Allusion has been made to the employment of light duty men, both for labor and for clerical work, and the effect of this has been considerable economy, as will be seen by the following comparison: The expenditure on labor and clerical assistance during the year 1916 amounted to \$6,835, whereas in the year under review the expenditure under this heading only amounted to \$5,570.

On the outward transport of goods, many improvements have been made over the operations of previous years. By the employment of four lorries we have been able also to handle practically the whole of our outward shipments, including the despatch of large shipments to Paris, without any outside help. Also we have secured special permission from the South Eastern Railway Company to ship up to three tons per day from their Cannon Street Station, which gives us an express service between London and Boulogne, instead of relying upon goods traffic facilities. Of course, where our shipments exceed the amount of three tons per day, we are obliged to fall back upon slower movement. Until recently also all these shipments were made through the intervention of the British Red Cross Society, but some months ago we were able to make direct arrangements with the Railway Company in the name of the Canadian Red Cross Society, which have expedited the handling of our outward goods.

We have also obtained from the Controller of the War Trade Department of the Board of Trade permission to sign permits for the export of prohibited goods where such goods are deemed necessary for Red Cross work abroad.

Until last March the principal bulk of our supplies arrived at Plymouth by Government transports, but since that time they have been arriving also at Liverpool, Bristol, Manchester, Glasgow and Southampton. These supplies are forwarded over British Railways at one half the usual rates: This arrangement applies to both incoming and outgoing consignments.

The operations of this Department during the period under consideration can best be set down in tabulated form as follows :

Number of inward shipments cleared	131
Number of cases received from Canada	61,126
Number of cases distributed in Great Britain	30,160
Made up as follows :	
(a) Canadian Medical Units	24,728
(b) Allied Organizations	5,432
Number of cases shipped to France	32,433
Made up as follows :	
(a) Boulogne Dépôt	12,433
(b) Paris Dépôt	20,000

In addition to the 61,126 cases received from Canada, this Department dealt with 24,553 cases of supplies purchased in Great Britain.

RE-PACKING DEPARTMENT

This Department packed for special requisitions 1,252 cases containing 878,997 articles, in addition to re-packing 960 cases of hospital supplies received from Canada.

BONDING DEPARTMENT

The facilities afforded to the Society by the Board of Customs and Excise is a very valuable assistance, not only because it expedites the receipt and distribution of dutiable goods, but chiefly because through its operations we have been able to save a very large sum of money in avoiding duty payments. The amount of duty thus saved amounted during the year to \$172,000, against the sum of \$68,000 saved during the previous year. The increased amount is largely accounted for by the greater shipments of cigarettes and tobacco, on which articles also the duty has been considerably increased.

The cases of dutiable goods handled through our bonded warehouse during the year included 5,786 cases of canned peaches cleared, warehoused and distributed on behalf of the Ontario Government.

It will be noted that the number of cases handed to Allied Organizations amounted to 5,432, which represents a large proportion of the total number of cases dealt with, thus carrying out the aim of the Society from the outset, which was to contribute as generously as possible to the needs of our Allies. The greater number of these cases were sent to the Paris Dépôt for distribution to the French hospitals, and the remainder were given to various Allies at a time when they were most needed. To mention a few examples of this kind, I would point out the special need of the Italian Red Cross after the big offensive of their Armies on the Carso front; and a considerable gift to the Serbian Red Cross when their warehouse at Saloniki was destroyed by fire. The Belgian Red Cross also has received a considerable number of cases, as this Nation is practically expatriated and must look entirely to outside relief for meeting its necessities.

Other Allied Organizations who periodically receive assistance from the London office of the Society are the Russian Red Cross Society, the French Wounded Emergency Fund, the Wounded Allies Relief Committee (which gives special care to the needs of Montenegro). The Canadian War Contingent Association also calls upon the Society from time to time for various materials, such as tobacco, cigarettes, socks, crutches, etc., and these are always cheerfully supplied.

Before concluding this report I would like to acknowledge the excellent services rendered to the Society by Mr. R. J. Wood, the Manager of our warehouses. Mention should also be made of the valuable services of Mrs. Hall, who is in charge of the re-packing department, and the able assistance given by Sergt. Henderson, who records the inward shipments, and Corpl. Stewart who records the outward shipments.

(Sgd.) CLAUDE G. BRYAN,
Lt.-Col.
Assistant Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTANT, LONDON, ENGLAND FOR THE YEAR 1917

SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS

In inaugurating a system of accounting for a concern like this, naturally the question came up as to how far-reaching it should be. It was decided that all cash received by the different Departments, Hospitals, etc., should be forwarded to and appear in the books of this office, and that all payments should be made from here, but beyond the dividing of the accounts with each Department under several headings, it was thought unnecessary to keep the internal accounts of the branches here. The heads of each of these were advised accordingly, were told that they were expected to keep their own internal accounts—on certain lines, of which they were given examples—and requested to send a summary of their accounts to this office each month. We get, and check up here, monthly statements, with vouchers attached, from the Boulogne and Paris Depots.

The System of accounts installed in this office is a simple one—adaptable to expansion on the same lines, and of which the Auditors speak well.

RECORD OF CASH RECEIVED

An official numbered receipt, of which there is a stub kept, has been issued for every item of cash received. There have been sixteen thousand five hundred and fifteen issued during the year. Every item is deposited in, and traceable to, the bank. All amounts are credited to accounts as indicated by the donors.

SYSTEM OF MAKING PAYMENTS

All payments are by cheques and are made on accounts certified by the respective Departments, Hospitals, etc., concerned.

STATEMENTS FOR HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

Each item received and each item disbursed appears, with fair particulars, under their respective account headings, on the monthly statements, which, after having been audited, are sent to the Head Office. Each of these monthly statements takes about 73 typewritten sheets.

SYSTEM OF RECORD OF SUPPLIES FURNISHED

Our system of getting from the supply branch a record of all equipment and supplies sent to the different hospitals, a good many of which are naturally not charged up to them in our account books, is for a requisition received from the hospital requiring the supplies or made out from letters, etc., received from them, to be put on our requisition files under the respective hospital, etc., headings, for everything being supplied.

For whatever of the goods asked for on these requisitions that are in stock at our warehouse, a numbered order is sent there, and for those that have to be purchased and shipped direct orders are issued to the firms, and duplicates of these orders are at once sent to the parties requisitioning for the supplies, so that they will know that the goods have been ordered and from whom they are coming. We see that all goods are acknowledged and it is from these acknowledgments that we charge those that are required to be charged up.

We have 110 general ledger accounts running; there are 66 insurance policies to look after; we have made 60 "Schedules of Equipment" supplied to different hospitals, etc.

The following figures showing our receipts and disbursements during the past three years, a great deal of which has had to be dealt with in comparatively small amounts, will give some idea of the work handled directly by the Department:

	Receipts			Disbursements		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Year ending 31st October, 1915.....	102,692	15	4	91,625	12	0
" " " 1916.....	269,493	11	5	282,638	4	3
" " " 1917.....	298,693	17	8	287,936	4	7

STAFF

The following are the members of my staff:

Miss E. M. Gibson, General Assistant.

Miss R. A. Whiteside, on cash book and ledgers.

Miss E. Holland, on freight book and stenography.

Miss A. Lang, on the Invoices, etc.

Miss J. Morton, on telephone switchboard and typing.

Staff Q.M.S. Jones (attached), N.C.O. in charge military sub-staff and typing statements.

As our staff has not been large, especially just now, two former assistants having recently gone to other Departments and are not yet replaced, we are kept hard at it, and I desire here to gratefully acknowledge the cheerful and unstinting assistance which I have received from all the members of my staff, whose hearty co-operation has greatly facilitated the work of the Department.

(Sgd.) F. B. MACMAHON,
Captain.

The Annual Report of the Information Bureau will be found in Bulletin No. 32 for December-January, last, "The Information Bureau Number."

REPORT OF PRISONERS OF WAR DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1917

The past year has been one of many vicissitudes in the Prisoners of War Department, and we have had a great many difficulties and anxieties.

When the Department first started in May, 1915, we were subject to very few regulations; there was no limit to the amount of food or clothing that might be sent to prisoners and we were only responsible to the Commissioner and the Head Office. Towards the end of 1916 this was all changed and the whole question of prisoners of war was reorganized and a Central Committee appointed by the War Office, which was given practically supreme power in all matters relating to prisoners of war.

A series of regulations were compiled by this Committee in conjunction with the War Office and the Chief Postal Censor and all Prisoners of War Associations were put under this Committee and only allowed to carry on their work by the authority of and under the direction of this Committee. The Canadian Red Cross Prisoners of War Department was made the Care Committee for all Canadian prisoners of war. All private parcels were stopped, and only associations or authorized shops might pack parcels of food for prisoners.

This regulation naturally caused a very great deal of grief and consternation amongst relatives, who during the past had found much joy and comfort in packing the home parcels for their dear ones, which had done so much to help and relieve them in their captivity. In the case of people in Canada it was particularly hard as the Authorities were at first not able to arrive at a very definite arrangement and the regulations were altered two or three times. This was trying for us in this Department, as all the work had to be reorganized each time, but it must have been doubly so for the relatives who were unable to know all the difficulties attendant on such changes or to see the reasons for such drastic changes and who were terribly distressed and in many cases indignant with the Red Cross, who were, had they but known it, the very last people they should have blamed in the matter.

The Central Committee unfortunately chose the 1st December for bringing these regulations into force, thus causing, I think, quite unnecessary distress at Christmas time.

It was altogether an unlucky moment to start, as not only was there the usual congestion at Christmas, naturally causing delay, but the start also coincided with a suspension of all traffic on the German railways, which lasted a fortnight, with the renewal of the submarine menace and consequent dislocation of sea transport, and later on with the blocking of most of the German railways by snow. All these causes contributed to most distressing delays in the receipt of parcels in the prison camps and it is hardly to be wondered at that the prisoners themselves and their relatives attributed this delay to the new scheme and to slackness or worse on the part of the Red Cross and other Associations.

After several efforts to secure the best possible results for the prisoners, we started sending at least three parcels a fortnight (some in those days had as many as 5 or 6) and sent them all by Parcels Post. This method, I am thankful to say, appears to be entirely satisfactory and I trust will continue to be so. Almost all the previously delayed parcels eventually reached the prisoners. This, however, though some comfort to us as proving at least that the parcel had been sent, could not make up to the men what they had suffered during those weary winter months of delay.

On the 1st May, 1917, new regulations again came into force and, I fear, fresh distress caused to the prisoners and their friends. The total amount that might be

sent to any one prisoner in a fortnight in the way of food was limited to 30 pounds, in addition to bread, and every association was informed that they must send no more and no less. No extra food parcels were to be allowed whatever, nor were we allowed to accept any food, tobacco, cigarettes or clothing to forward to prisoners.

We obtained the sanction of the Commissioner and the Executive to send as good parcels as possible to the weight allowed and it was decided that every Canadian prisoner of war should be sent three 10s. parcels fortnightly, whether their friends subscribed or not. Since the 1st of May this is what we have been sending to all our men, who at present number upwards of 2,700.

We have had a good deal of trouble over the bread. It was found impossible to produce any bread whether from Switzerland or England (the Copenhagen Bureau closed entirely during the summer) that would travel in the hot weather. A form of bread biscuit was invented by the Bureau of Berne which stood the journey all right and which we sent during the summer months. They were very hard and do not appear to have given much satisfaction to the men. I am glad to say that bread is being sent once more and Berne have a good supply of Canadian flour with which they are baking better bread for the prisoners than we are getting here. After the New Year I hope they will have still better bread, as we are going to send from Copenhagen, which sends the best bread that has ever been baked for prisoners.

We have despatched in all just under 250,000 parcels of provisions to our men, not including bread.

I can personally vouch for the quality of the things sent as I try almost all of them and they really are excellent. We send a total of three tons of parcels a day, a ton of sugar and half a ton of tea a week, etc. These figures give some idea of the magnitude of our requirements.

About 100 parcels of clothing are despatched daily by Mr. Stavert and three orderlies, who pack the clothing at the premises in Sackville Street, very kindly lent us by Messrs. T. Cook and Son. We have sent in all 26,000 parcels of clothing.

The question of accommodation with the ever-increasing work has been a difficult one, though the Commissioner has helped us in every way. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Hugh Allan and the Allan Line, who during many months allowed us to use their Board Room and their large basement. It was with very great regret that we had to leave these when the offices were taken over and other arrangements had to be made.

We have every reason to be very happy over the letters and cards we are now getting from the men. Some of them are most touching, especially from men, who, in their distress at not getting parcels, wrote us really very bitter letters, accusing us of every possible crime. They realize now that the delay was not due to any carelessness on our parts and they are pathetically sorry for the things they said. There will always, of course, be grumblers. It is not to be expected that amongst so large a body of men we can hope to please all, whatever we do, especially under the terribly trying conditions under which they are living. Most of them are splendid, though, and show under the long strain of captivity a spirit worthy of their own best traditions.

It is a matter of great satisfaction and congratulation that so many Canadians have escaped lately. They all, I am thankful to say, give a very satisfactory account of the parcels and repeat what we have heard from other sources, that the Canadian Red Cross Society's parcels are amongst the best that are sent to Germany. One thing I regret to say they report, that the parcels are sometimes tampered with. This is not to be wondered at, considering the food shortage in Germany, but what is particularly distressing is that when the Germans extract any articles from a box, they strike off the articles from the list of contents and write against it "done by the Canadian Red Cross."

The Hague Conference is a matter of great interest to all prisoners and those connected with them. Unfortunately, although it was signed on the 1st of July, 1917, and has been ratified by both Governments, the Germans have put so many obstacles in the way that the scheme of exchange to Holland has not yet come into operation. Several hundred have, however, been repatriated from Switzerland, and it is hoped that a large number of invalids from Germany will soon be sent there. The other difficulties have, I believe, been overcome and it is to be hoped that nothing further will occur to cause another delay in the transfer of Officers and N.C.O.s who have been in prison over 18 months being sent to Holland. The exchange will take place strictly in order of precedence according to date of capture. There will, therefore, be a good many to be exchanged before it is the turn of any of the Canadian troops.

The question of soap has been a very worrying one. We were sending a large supply all the time, but found that none of it was ever reaching the men. This was the same with all prisoners and finally the War Office forbade the sending of more than 8 ozs. per month. This has now, I am glad to say, been raised to 12 ozs. Even if they do not get it, it is a satisfaction to know we are doing our best by sending it.

Tobacco and cigarettes have also been sadly delayed and in a great many cases confiscated. This was partly due to the very unwise action of a certain large firm whose goods were being sent in large quantities. They enclosed cartoons in their cigarette packets and, these pictures being of a very objectionable character to the Germans, they quite naturally confiscated the whole lot and for some time all cigarettes were broken up and much disappointment caused. It is quite apparent that one cannot be too scrupulous in adhering to the regulations and that any attempt to infringe them or send articles which are prohibited may result in all the prisoners being penalized.

Our monthly expenditure has risen with gigantic strides and, were it not that one knows from experience that the generosity of people in Canada were inexhaustible, especially where the prisoners of war are concerned, one might look forward with some alarm to the future. There appears to be some misapprehension regarding the money contributed by the Women of Canada to H.R.H. The Duchess of Connaught as a parting gift and which Her Royal Highness had expressed a wish should be devoted to prisoners of war or any other war work she might select. But this sum of money, large as it was, would at our present rate of expenditure only pay for one month's ordinary food supply. It seemed to her such a pity that this gift should be merged into a General Fund that she evolved the idea of putting the money on deposit, letting it accumulate and forming a fund for helping prisoners who may return disabled from captivity to start life again under the best conditions. This wish of the Duchess will, I think, and hope be carried out and will, I am sure, give pleasure to those who made the gift.

It gets more and more difficult to get workers. The high salaries offered by Government Departments are a great and most understandable temptation and one cannot admire sufficiently the many voluntary workers who, in spite of limited means, increased cost of living and tempting offers, have remained faithful to the work on which they are engaged. I am glad to say that in one or two cases when I have put them before the Commissioner, he has immediately agreed to paying a small billeting allowance to enable them to live in London.

At present there are about 30 workers in this Department. This does not, of course, include the paid packers at the Civil Service Stores. Several of these are most faithful workers all day and every day. Those that have been here longest are Miss Jean Bovey, Miss Kemp, Miss Turton, Miss Strathy, Mrs. Colquhoun, Mrs. Lafferty, Miss Nott, Mrs. Graham Thompson, Miss Willoughby, and Miss Stikeman, who left us for some time, but returned, I am glad to say, when she came back from Canada, and is in charge of the men's post cards. We lost three most valuable workers in Miss Hammersley, who left after two years to drive a motor ambulance in France as her eyes could not stand the strain, and Mrs. and Miss Van Allen, who were obliged to return to Canada. Mrs. Martin Johnson spends a large part of every day at the packing premises on Regent Street, where she supervises the packing of 600 food parcels daily, checks the labels with the list of orders, both before and after they go to the Post Office. This double check makes it almost impossible for a man to be overlooked. The Q.M.G. supplies us with a motor lorry to carry our parcels to the G.P.O.

It is almost impossible in the limits of a short report to touch on the many points of interest connected with this work. I am quite sure that all connected with it feel their labors more than repaid by the gratitude of the men themselves and the many touching letters we get from relatives who, now that the first bitterness and disappointment are over, realize that the regulations were only made after deep and earnest thought, both for the welfare of the prisoners and the successful conduct of the war, and that the Canadian Red Cross, who have to carry out these regulations, have no choice but to obey. I am glad to think that we have been able to successfully urge several points, which have added materially to the welfare of the prisoners.

It will, indeed, be a blessed day when these men who have endured so much find themselves safe home once more.

(Sgd.) EVELYN RIVERS BULKELEY.

REPORT ON VISIT OF INSPECTION TO INTERNMENT CAMPS IN SWITZERLAND

BY LT.-COL. CLAUDE G. BRYAN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER,
CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

December 15th, 1917

I have the honor to submit the following report covering the visit of inspection which I made to Switzerland on behalf of Canadian prisoners of war interned in that Country :

Provided with letters of authentication from the Commissioner, Sir George Perley, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner for Canada, The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the British Red Cross Society, D. H. Illingworth, Director-General of the French Red Cross Committee, and others. I left London on Wednesday, November 7th, travelling via Havre to Paris.

In Paris I immediately booked my passage through to Geneva for the following day, but on reaching the Gare de Lyon I was informed that the frontier between France and Switzerland had been that day closed by the French Government, apparently on account of the heavy movement of troops to the Italian front. This closure still prevails, but with the assistance of Mr. R. M. Hardie, the Canadian Red Cross Representative in Paris (of whose courtesy and co-operation I wish to make special mention), I was able to obtain from the French Minister of War a letter instructing the officer at the frontier to pass me through to Switzerland. This letter, I might add, was also secured through the instrumentality of Mons. Godart, Under-Secretary of State for the French Public Health Department, whose co-operation I would also like to acknowledge.

To make these arrangements naturally took some time and it was Saturday, November 17th, before I reached Berne, travelling via Geneva. On the following morning I presented my letters of introduction to Col. Picot, the British Military Attache at the Legation, who is also in charge of all British prisoners of war interned in Switzerland. Colonel Picot took me at once to the British Legation and introduced me to Sir Horace Rumbold, the British Minister, and to Lady Rumbold, who is President of the local organization for British Red Cross work.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Before discussing my itinerary and the details of inspection it might be well to place before you as briefly as possible the general situation.

Switzerland, as you know, agreed to furnish hospitality for a certain number of British soldiers released from German prison camps. The number of these was limited to the accommodation which could be found for them in this neutral country. At the time of my visit there were approximately in the hands of the Swiss Authorities about 1,200 British prisoners, 2,000 Belgians, 8,000 French and 13,000 Germans. The British figures include Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans and men from India. The agreement under which they were received into the country provided that all matters of control, discipline and supervision of accommodation should be in the hands of the Swiss Authorities. At each Camp the Senior British Officer has nominal charge of the men, but as he is without effective means of insisting upon his authority, the control, as far as he is concerned, becomes a matter of tact and personal influence and, as these qualities vary greatly, no two camps present identical conditions.

The Swiss control is carried out in each Camp by means of a Swiss Military Officer, known as the Commandant de Place. In most cases he is also the Swiss Medical Officer, who is responsible for the physical care of the men. This duality of control (real in the case of the Swiss officer and moral only in the case of the British officer) has sometimes led to friction ; but there were apparently no cases of this kind existing during my visit.

I made it my first duty at each place to call immediately on arrival upon the Commandant de Place by way of acknowledging the superior authority, after which I called upon the Senior British officer and explained my mission. This method I found obviated all difficulties.

The central Swiss authority for all interned prisoners of all belligerents is vested in Colonel Hauser, of Berne. His deputy for all British prisoners is Major de la Harpe, of Vevey. Immediately under the latter are the Commandants de Place above described. As stated, I formally called upon all of the Swiss officers concerned with our prisoners and found them in every case apparently most anxious to do everything possible for their welfare.

The British officer in charge of all British interned prisoners is Lieut.-Col. Picot, Military Attache at the British Legation, Berne. Col. Picot has a separate office for this purpose and his Chief Paymaster and personal understudy is a Canadian officer, Capt. W. H. Hooper, of the 2nd Battalion, who comes from Carleton Place, Ontario. Col. Picot paid the highest possible tribute to this officer for his excellent work. On the Ordnance Branch of his Department, Col. Picot has for his chief assistant Capt. T. V. Scudamore, British Columbia Regiment. This officer's duty is to see that the men are properly uniformed and equipped on their arrival from Germany and he also sees to the distribution of Red Cross stores to the hospitals. I inspected the Ordnance and Red Cross stores and found them well provided with supplies. The only articles of which there may exist any shortage are pyjamas and dressing gowns, which it seemed to me could more freely be used in the hospitals, especially for the consumptive cases at Leysin, where the men sit outside on balconies in order to take the sun cure. I told the Red Cross Committee at Berne that an additional supply of these would be sent them in due course.

It appears that Australian prisoners in Switzerland are furnished with Australian uniforms, whereas Canadians are supplied with the British regulation uniform. This leaves them without any mark to distinguish them as Canadians and I found that this is about the only real complaint the men have. This deficiency can be removed by supplying Canadian buttons and badges. Hitherto our Prisoners of War Department has met individual requests for buttons and badges, but in my opinion it would be a good thing to furnish the officer in charge of ordnance stores at Berne (who, as above stated, is a Canadian at the moment) with a supply of Canadian buttons and Maple Leaf badges, sufficient to equip all Canadian prisoners. I might say, in passing, that I met with one or two requests for the supply of kilts from members of the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, but it would seem from the regulations that we are forbidden to send clothing of any kind.

MAINTENANCE OF PRISONERS

As to maintenance, the present arrangement with the Swiss Government is that all officers and other ranks are lodged and fed in various hotels and pensions in each internment camp, for which the British Government pays 7 francs per day per officer, and 5 francs a day for other ranks. A regular diet is prescribed and the food is supposed to be of good quality and sufficient quantity. The following dietary was copied from the diet sheet at the office of the S.B.O., Chateau d'Oex, and refers to the amount of food allowed per day :

Meat.....	250 grammes.
Sausages.....	50 "
Bread.....	250 "
Milk.....	750 "
Sugar.....	15 "
Flour, rice, etc.....	200 "
Vegetables (monthly supplement according to season).....	
Cheese.....	50 "
Lard.....	40 "
Butter and grease.....	30 "
Potatoes.....	750 "
Coffee.....	16 "
Cocoa.....	20 "
Confiture.....	40 "
Fruit (cooked or raw).....	50 "

The above is the normal diet ration, and when men are in the hospitals they are furnished with supplementary foods, such as soups, meat extracts, eggs, cod liver oil, bacon, wine, etc., out of funds provided by the Berne Committee of the British Red Cross Society. The funds of this Society have been raised partly by contributions from the British Colony in Switzerland and an allowance has been made by the British Red Cross Committee, London, of 10,000 francs per month. These supplementary foods are prescribed by the Medical Officers of hospitals, each of whom is supplied with a book of vouchers, called "Bons," for this purpose. When his supply of Bons is exhausted, such officer applies for further vouchers to the Berne

Committee. This Committee also endeavors to help the various camps with means of recreation, but in my opinion they have not sufficient money to adequately meet this need. In proof of this I would point out that at most of the camps there exists a recreation fund which is provided by an assessment of a few pence per week upon every man and a larger assessment upon each officer. As the number of officers is relatively very small, this seems to me to be a hardship of which they might be relieved by the Red Cross Societies. I found upon enquiry that the recreation fund at Chateau d'Oex had never been sufficient for their purpose and that it was now overdrawn to the extent of 600 francs. I think it might be a pleasant thing for the Canadian Red Cross Society to discharge this overdraft, and in discussing the matter with Col. Picot at the end of my visit, he said that the Berne Committee would welcome further monetary assistance along this line.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES

The rule prevailing at present is that all British prisoners receive from the Swiss authorities a cash allowance of 12 francs per month, which is charged to the British Government. In addition to this, the men are entitled to draw on their pay certain sums per month. These latter sums differ in the several camps for various reasons.

Finding that it would be desirable to put the Canadian system of paying on the same basis as that of other British prisoners, I agreed with Col. Picot that the system would be put on the basis as from January 1st, 1918, and I am advising Col. Ross, of the Canadian Pay Office, to this effect, in order that he may send out the necessary confirmation.

BERNE—BUREAU DE SECOURS

At Col. Picot's request I spent the first day of my visit in looking through the Central Establishment at Berne, including the Bureau de Secours, which handles all the information cards concerning Allied prisoners of war in Germany, and which also despatches bread and rusks to prisoners on behalf of the Central Prisoners of War Committee. This organization, I may say in passing, has for its Director a Mr. Mayne, an Englishman by birth who spent many years in the Indian Civil Service and whose last residence before the war was Vancouver, British Columbia, where his family now reside.

Mr. Mayne kindly showed me over their whole establishment, where they have more than 50 clerks employed keeping the card indexes of the prisoners, including acknowledgments of parcels sent to prisoners from Berne, complaints as to the condition in which these arrive, etc., etc.

I was also taken through the establishment which has to do with the shipment of bread to prisoners and was very favorably impressed with the care bestowed upon this branch of the work. I was informed that there were over 70 packers constantly employed in receiving the bread from the bakeries, parcelling it up and shipping it out. At the present time nearly 3,000 loaves a day are despatched to prisoners in Germany. Each loaf is first wrapped in two thicknesses of clean paper and then enclosed in a cardboard box, which is firmly tied with heavy string. The address labels are prepared in another department and are pasted on to the cardboard box and a notation is made as to the particular bakery from which each loaf has been supplied. In this way complaints received back from prisoners are utilized to keep the production up to a high standard. By means of this system certain bakeries about whose bread many complaints were received, have been eliminated, and it has always to be borne in mind that bread is sometimes a week or ten days old before it reaches its destination. Besides this caution, a very rigid system of inspection prevails in the first place, and any loaves of which the crust is broken are discarded, the baker paying a fine of a few centimes for each loaf so discarded on inspection. Such loaves, however, are not wasted, but are converted into rusks at an establishment which exists for this special purpose.

I should add that, in addition to the workers above mentioned, all of whom are paid, the work is superintended for the most part by ladies of British and Allied nationalities, whose services are voluntary.

The Committee de Secours expressed to me their regret that the Canadian Red Cross Society had deemed it advisable to arrange for a discontinuance of the service of the Berne Committee for Canadian prisoners in respect of bread and rusks by transferring their orders to the Committee in Holland as from January 1st next. Their view is that all the bread is prepared from specially imported Canadian flour, the Committee in Holland cannot improve upon the quality in any way; and the withdrawal of our support naturally affects the size of the organization they have

built up for this service. If it were not too late they would be glad to have the present arrangement continued.

CANTEENS, ETC

The various camps are well provided with canteens and recreation huts, all of which contain quite good libraries. I would specially like to mention the British Red Cross establishment at Chateau d'Oex, which is very well run indeed. It is a capital building with rooms upstairs. Two of these rooms are used for instructional purposes, one for typewriting and commercial classes and the other for book-binding and picture framing. The latter plant is said to be now self-sustaining. Many orders for work have been received and amongst them a considerable Christmas order for T. Eaton & Company, Ltd., of Toronto.

At Interlaken and at Murren there are specially good canteens run by the Y.M.C.A.

I might add in passing that the Y.M.C.A. Secretary in charge at Murren told me that the average takings of the canteens amounted to approximately 50 centimes per day per man. As their purchases include cigarettes and tobacco, it will be seen that the men do not require to help out their rations much in the way of food.

The hardest thing for the men to get used to is the Continental breakfast of tea or coffee and milk. Being used to more substantial breakfasts, they find themselves hungry about 11 o'clock, go to the canteens to relieve their hunger and spoil their appetites for their mid-day meal. This condition of affairs is known to the Commanding Officers, who do what they can to correct it. In my opinion, it is the only deficiency which exists in the way of rations and probably is not any greater hardship than large numbers of people are enduring generally on account of the war, both in neutral and belligerent countries. The men realize also that it is so vast an improvement on their previous experience in Germany that they are not disposed to complain much.

There are many examples of unselfish work in connection with these canteens, but I would like specially to mention Mr. John Mahler, an Englishman of Swiss ancestry, who at his own expense is living at Interlaken to be of help to British prisoners and who, when the men are moved on to Meiringen for employment, is going to take on the supervision of the Y.M.C.A. hut there.

Whilst I was in Berne I had the good fortune to participate in the reception of 412 British prisoners, who came in on a special train from Constance. Included in this number were 5 Canadian officers and 38 other ranks. Mrs. Fraser, of our Parcel Department, happened to be in Berne at the same time and between us we managed to talk with practically all of these new arrivals. All of them were overjoyed to be out of the hands of the enemy and most of them seemed to be in pretty fair physical condition. They reported that their treatment by the Germans had considerably improved during recent months. Every man expressed great gratitude for the parcels which had been sent to him regularly from London, stating that the prisoners have been almost wholly dependent upon these parcels for necessary food. It was clearly indicated also that these parcels are reaching them for the most part regularly and in satisfactory condition.

Some of them also reported that there were many cases in Germany which seemed to be more urgent for repatriation than their own, and this looks as if the Germans were not paying due regard to the written requests which are sent on to them asking for special cases to be medically examined for evacuation from Germany. The case of General Victor Williams was specially mentioned by some of our officers as an urgent one, which had so far not received the consideration it deserved at the hands of the enemy.

This special train-load of British prisoners, like all of its predecessors, received a warm welcome from the British Colony at Berne, by whom they were given a substantial supper laid out in all of the available rooms of the Station, before they proceeded in detachments to the various internment camps for which they had been designated.

Before leaving London I had promised the Australian Red Cross Society that I would see as many as possible of their interned prisoners. At every internment camp I visited I specially enquired for them and I think I succeeded in interviewing all that were available. The opinions they expressed were almost identical with those of our own men and I have no reason to think that they are very dissatisfied with their present conditions.

CLAUDE G. BRYAN, Lt.-Col.,
Assistant Commissioner,
Canadian Red Cross Society.

December, 1917.

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F.—REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT
(HON. CAPT. C. F. SKIPPER)

I have the honor to report on the work of this Department during the past year as follows :

The work of construction has been very materially hampered and retarded by the difficulties attendant on the purchasing of building material of all kinds, owing to the Imperial Government having safeguarded its own requirements by disallowing the purchase of material without Government grants. The scarcity of timber, the commandeering of asbestos sheets and the reduction in the output of factories of all kinds have been most difficult to overcome, whilst prices have very greatly increased. Added to these, the calling up of so many men for military purposes has prevented the employment of good skilled labor, whilst those engaged have to be retained at an ever-increasing wage.

The above remarks apply to our building operations both in England and France, but with greater force to the Continent.

In order to indicate the extent of the building operation of the Society during the past three years, the accompanying statement is submitted :

The several works in England have all been completed ; that at Joinville le Pont is still in progress and would have been completed had it not been that so many difficulties had been experienced of the nature mentioned above.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, TAPLOW

	£	s.	d.
<i>Contract No. 1</i> —Ward blocks Nos. 1-4, inclusive, servery and wagon shed, receiving block, boiler house and drying room, administration block, hospital stores, dental block, recreation room, water tower and connecting gangways.....	16,266	9	8
<i>Contract No. 2</i> —Ontario wards, ward block No. 5, Alexandra wards, clothes stores, medical exercise room, isolation hospital, operating theatre, engine house, extensions to boiler house, root house, disinfecting chamber, incinerator, extensions to recreation room, extensions to dinner wagon shed and extensions to dental block including connecting gangways.....	13,861	2	4
<i>Contract No. 3</i> —No. 3 orderlies sleeping huts, No. 1 sergeants' sleeping quarters and foul linen store.....	1,442	14	0
<i>Contract No. 4</i> —Extensions to isolation hospital, extensions to recreation room, mortuary and pass office.....	1,887	12	2
<i>Contract No. 5</i> —Linen stores and urinal to Alexandra ward, extensions to kitchen and pastry room and additional cooking apparatus.....	782	6	3
<i>Various Works</i> —			
Taking down and rebuilding patients' dining room.....	580	0	0
Boiler house for special ward.....	35	0	0
Providing framing and awning to platform for open air ward..	68	10	0
Providing kitchens and alterations to Ontario ward.....	427	15	9
Extensions to dental workshop.....	35	19	6
Cold storage, milk store and sanitary store.....	246	8	0
Doctors' mess, etc.....	1,478	1	9
Nurses' sleeping quarters.....	2,067	11	2

THE KING'S CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, BUSHEY PARK

	£	s.	d.
<i>Contract No. 1</i> —Orderlies' dining room, patients' dining room, patients' showers and ablution, W.C.'s and urinal, administration block.....	1,486	4	10
<i>Contract No. 2</i> —Billiard room, recreation room and boiler house....	1,058	5	7
<i>Contract No. 3</i> —Ward blocks, ablution and W.C.'s, boiler houses Nos. 1 and 2, linen store, O.C.'s office, dental and dispensing dept., admission and discharge dept., nurses' day room, open shed, incinerator and shed.....	8,353	15	11

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<i>Contract No. 4—Ward kitchens, medical exercise room</i>	586 4 10
--	----------

Various Works—

Physical exercise room	219 10 0
Waiting room (final accounts not complete).	
Cinema box (final accounts not complete).	

SHORNCLIFFE

	£ s. d.
Recreation room, Moore Barracks	1,624 4 9
Chest ward, Moore Barracks	1,883 13 5
Waiting room, Central Military Hospital	319 16 8
Recreation room, Central Military Hospital	1,035 14 6

BRAMSHOTT, HAMPSHIRE

	£ s. d.
Chest ward, Bramshott Camp	1,934 9 4

BEARWOOD, WOKINGHAM

	£ s. d.
Recreation room	1,480 17 9

WOODCOTE PARK, EPSOM

	£ s. d.
Canteen and recreation room	933 11 6

HILLINGDON HOUSE, UXBRIDGE

	£ s. d.
Dining room and medical exercise room	1,169 6 9
Recreation room	818 15 6

PRINCESS PATRICIA HOSPITAL, RAMSGATE

	£ s. d.
Recreation room, dining room, equipment for kitchen, erecting portable sleeping hut and lavatories	4,297 7 4

CHATHAM HOUSE, RAMSGATE

	£ s. d.
Workshop	352 3 7
Machinery	556 10 3

FRANCE

	£ s. d.
Chest ward No. 1, Canadian General Hospital, Etaples, approximate cost	2,100 0 0
Chest ward, No. 3 Canadian General Hospital, Boulogne, approximate cost	1,150 0 0
Recreation room, No. 7 Canadian General Hospital, Etaples, cost	825 0 0
Chauffeurs' quarters (final accounts not completed).	

CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, JOINVILLE-LE-PONT, VINCENNES

	£ s. d.
<i>Contract No. 1—No. 5 ward blocks, servery and dinner wagon sheds, nurses' cloaks and lavatories, receiving block, kitchen, operating theatre, administration block, dining room, orderlies lavatories and patients' showers and connecting gangways</i>	26,250 0 0
<i>Contract No. 2—Dental block, pathological block, recreation room and connecting gangways. Approximate cost, as this work is being done on a percentage basis</i>	4,095 5 10

In addition to the above, various recreation huts and other buildings have been erected in France by French contractors and not under my supervision.

(Sgd.) CHARLES F. SKIPPER,
Captain.



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G.—REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

This Department was established in January, 1916, and since that date my personal attention has been given to the selecting of stores and comforts of all kinds.

The difficulties of purchasing in times of peace require an intimate knowledge of the markets, but these have been very greatly increased as the war has progressed until at the present time the fact that the Government controls productions of all kinds and commanders from those who hold supplies of manufactured goods, makes the task of purchasing an arduous one.

During this period the cost price of everything has advanced very often as much as 100 per cent. or more and the supplies have naturally diminished and in many instances disappeared; so much so that the departments of the Government cannot provide many of the goods. This latter condition often results in the Medical Units indenting on the Society for stores which as a matter of fact are unprocureable.

Another difficulty is to secure early delivery of goods once the order has been placed, and this is of a three-fold nature, due to scarcity of raw material, lack of skilled labor and transportation delays.

This Department purchases for shipments to Boulogne, for the Canadian Hospitals in England, the Parcel Department and the Prisoners of War Department. It has charge of the petrol supplies required for the various branches of the Society's work.

It is found that by a personal oversight in selecting every article purchased, while it entails an enormous amount of work, well repays the Society by the quality and prices obtained. When it is considered that our purchases for the year amount to about :

Hot water bottles.....	1,500
Tobacco, tons.....	8
Cigarettes.....	12,630,000
Hair brushes.....	57,000
Tooth Brushes.....	73,000
Shaving brushes.....	40,000
Nail brushes.....	5,000
Toilet soap.....	103,500
Safety razors.....	37,000
Combs.....	29,200
Fruit drops, tons.....	5
Eating chocolate, tons.....	10
Etc., etc., etc.	

It will be seen that it means considerable work, more especially as a good many articles are manufactured abroad and large stocks have been entirely depleted and the country has to be scoured for small lots.

Besides all the above articles for the Parcel and Prisoners of War Departments, we have to keep France well supplied, as also our Hospitals in this country.

The handing over of our hospitals to the Military Authorities has relieved this Department of a great deal of work in the purchasing of provisions, food and medical supplies and surgical instruments, but the general increase in our work, due to the large number of hospitals in England and France, and the demands of our various departments fully offset this relief.

In addition to the foregoing the following are some of the supplies purchased by this Department for distribution: toys, games, cards, sugar, tea, coffee, jams, tinned goods, boots, slippers, suspenders, crutches, walking sticks, wrapping paper and twine, stoves, underwear, comforters, mitts, gloves, hot water bottles, matches, stationery, writing pads, pencils, pens, rulers, pins, thread, tape, buttons, chewing gum, gramophones, records and needles, billiard, pool and bagatelle tables, deck chairs and invalid carriages, spirit lamps, electric torches, groceries, meat, vegetables and household supplies for the I.O.D.E. Hospital and the Nurses' Rest Home.

My assistant, Miss Roberts, is most capable and renders very valuable service to the Society.

The equipping of the several Canadian Red Cross Hospitals, which involved the purchase of several thousand beds and the many other items necessary to make them of a high standard such as the people of Canada would desire, has been a most important part of the Department's work, and to maintain the hospitals at that standard is our constant desire, although the difficulties of procuring equipment to replace that worn out are greater than a year ago and increase with the length of the war.

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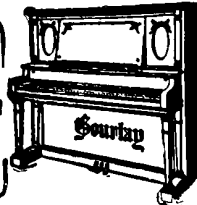
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MAIL BAG

FROM SIR R. E. W. TURNER, V.C., GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING CANADIAN TROOPS IN THE BRITISH ISLES :

Headquarters, Overseas Military Forces of
Canada, Argyll House, 246 Regent St.,
London, W.E.

November 7th, 1917.

On the completion of over three years' work, I wish to record how grateful we all feel to the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Under your careful administration, we have been judiciously and effectively assisted at all times.

In addition to the hospitals and recreation rooms provided and equipped, the generous supply of amusements and comforts have been deeply appreciated by our casualties from the field of battle, and the men completing their training preparatory to proceeding to France.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank you and the kind friends at home for the continued interest in the welfare of the dear lads that have so nobly upheld Canada's fair name before the world—sons that have never failed us, nor counted the odds against them.

FROM SURGEON-GENERAL GUY CARLTON JONES, C.M.G., C.A.M.C., MEDICAL COMMISSIONER CANADIAN OVERSEAS MILITARY FORCES, TO COL. HODGETTS:
245 Oxford St., London, W.1.,

November 20th, 1917.

I notice that it is about three years since you took over the office of the Canadian Red Cross Commissioner; it has been three years of strenuous work. No one could possibly have realized in the autumn of 1914, the scope of the work which would have to be undertaken by the Canadian Red Cross Commissioner.

Canada has indeed given plentifully, not only for the assistance and comfort of her own men, but also for the soldiers of the Empire generally, and of all our Allies.

During the time that I was Director of Medical Services, your hearty co-operation was always a great help and assistance to me in carrying out my executive duties, and since I have been inspecting the Canadian Hospitals in England, I have seen much evidence of the good work of the Society you represent.

The Canadian Red Cross Society has a large task before it, a task that will extend over many years, for we are only now beginning to realize how long will be the period during which the disabled soldier will require help and assistance. Long after his discharge, he will, and must have claims upon such organizations as the Red Cross Society. There is, therefore, no doubt, that the work of the Red Cross Society will be very much extended, especially in dealing with the man after he has ceased to be a soldier, and during many protracted years of convalescence.

FROM COL. WALLACE SCOTT, C.A.M.C. OFFICER COMMANDING NO. 11 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, MOORE BARRACKS, SHORNCLIFFE :

October 11th, 1917.

I have great pleasure in stating that I consider the Canadian Red Cross Society has greatly assisted in the patients' welfare since the inauguration of this Hospital.

Not only has the Society erected, equipped and maintained a magnificent recreation room, with writing and billiard rooms attached, but it has recently completed a splendid fresh air ward of 50 beds which was greatly needed for the seriously ill in this area.

We have received certain magazines and papers regularly. All patients who have been invalided to Canada have been equipped with a roll of comforts supplied by the Society and we have received various other supplies for the use of the patients.

I have never applied to have anything which has not been immediately forthcoming.

FROM LT.-COL. H. E. KENDALL, OFFICER COMMANDING NO. 12 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, BRAMSHOTT :

Owing to their very generous nature, it is almost impossible to submit a detailed report of the efforts of the Canadian Red Cross Society on our behalf during the past



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year. The gifts have been so varied and so frequent, that the accounting for them except in a general way, is a difficult proposition.

May it suffice, therefore, to say that not only have we received from the Canadian Red Cross Society a very abundant supply of all things which so greatly increase the material comfort of the patients, but we depend almost entirely on the efforts of the Red Cross for all such supplies as tobacco and cigarettes, canned fruits, and candies ; and in no case have they failed us.

Two very special instances of this very sympathetic interest are apparent in the fact of our having received, recently, firstly the gift of a beautiful spinal carriage, which fills a very real need, and secondly, of a new building for chest cases. This has also supplied a very urgently felt need. This building is the last word in hut construction for such cases. It is both commodious and beautiful. It accommodates comfortably 52 patients and has a broad full length verandah, facing the sun and an open square. It will, doubtless, contribute to the final recovery of some of the patients who would otherwise be sacrificed to our lack of facilities in this connection, while in other cases, it will have succeeded in sending them back to Canada bettered for their stay in this hut, and placed in a more advantageous state for further treatment. Nothing could have been more appropriate for this hospital.

In conclusion, may I express, on behalf of the patients our very deepest gratitude to all those who have so materially helped to render the stay of the patients in this hospital in any way more agreeable.

FROM L'ASSOCIATION DES DAMES FRANCAISES :

January 25th, 1918.

I do not know how to thank you for the magnificent shipment, which you have sent us. By the number of the articles composed in it, by their utility, and by their quality, it was one of the most important, that we have received, and I send you all our gratitude.

With my warmest and most sincere thanks.

LETTERS OF THANKS FROM FRENCH HOSPITALS :

January 16th, 1918.

Overcome by all your kindness, through which we benefit—we, the discharged and wounded soldiers of Docteur ———'s ward, all join in an outburst of thanks to convey to you our gratitude.

We have seen by the gifts and the touching solicitude you show, that you do not forget to try to make each one of us happy in the midst of our distress.

It cheers us up immensely, and we thank you doubly, because we do not forget that our Canadian brothers struggle at the side of France for the ideal of right and liberty.

Also we salute all the Canadian Red Cross in exclaiming, "Vive le Canada."

Signed by 61 poilous.

January 8th, 1918.

At the command of the administrative committee and in their name ; I take great pleasure in sending you our sincere thanks for the aid, which you have sent us, which enables us to carry on to the end, the work which we undertook at the beginning of the war.

We cannot thank you enough, as we humbly acknowledge that the task is rather heavy.

With expressions of deepest gratitude.

I beg to inform you of the arrival of all the things which you have had the kindness to send us. They were taken charge of by the Submarine Sick Bay, which serves for all purposes of the navy.

It was really a fall of manna from heaven and was doubly appreciated as it came to us from our friends in Canada.

I hope you will be good enough to convey to the Canadian Red Cross Society, the most grateful thanks of all the personnel of the Marine.

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December 28th, 1917.

We are in receipt of your generous gift, consisting of three cases of shirts, pyjamas and socks. Everything arrived in perfect condition. We hasten to send you our warmest thanks. How happy we are that your intervention has provided our brave men with warm clothing. The excessive cold of the present day has necessitated the prompt distribution. If other dressings are required, we may doubtless expect them in another shipment. In anticipation, please accept our warmest thanks for your generosity which I cannot find words to express as I would like to. Please accept them in these two words—Hearty thanks.

February 2nd, 1918.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the five cases, weighing 143 kilos, containing linen and other articles, which the Canadian Red Cross has had the kindness to send on the 30th of January to the North African wounded, being treated in my section.

Our soldiers, very touched by this proof of sympathy, of which they are the recipients, ask me to convey to the Canadian Red Cross this testimony of their deepest thanks.

FROM THE SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER, JURA GROUP, CANADIAN FORESTRY CORPS :

February 16th, 1918.

On my return from leave yesterday, I was pleased to find the ambulance you had promised had arrived. Will you accept please, the sincere thanks of all in this district, officers and men, for providing this most excellent machine, eminently suited for the class of work done.

I have no doubt that your generosity in this matter will reap a boundless reward in the comfort and convenience provided for patients.

Just the day previous to my departure for leave a carload of Red Cross comforts arrived. All I had time to do previous to my departure was to get these installed in a room under lock and key, in a convenient location. All the articles will be most useful, and we are deeply grateful for having them conveniently and freely supplied.

FROM THE OFFICER COMMANDING A CASUALTY CLEARING STATION :

January 17th, 1918.

In acknowledging your kind letter concerning our seeds, permit me to say how much we appreciate your prompt action in this, as in all our demands upon the Canadian Red Cross.

FROM THE MATRON, WEST CLIFF HOSPITAL TO MRS. HARCOURT VERNON, CANADIAN RED CROSS DEPÔT, FOLKESTONE :

March 16th, 1918.

Before leaving this area, I should like to tell you how much we have valued your assistance to this Hospital by the many gifts and supplies, games and books, you have given to us for the patients ; also for the assistance you gave us in making the Nursing Sisters' rooms pleasant by supplying cretonne, etc., to cover chairs and make curtains which added so much to the freshness and attractiveness of the wards.

The Canada Kit bags received by the patients returning to Canada are much appreciated.

For your assistance at Christmas time, I cannot say enough. Our Christmas was a very happy one and the Red Cross Society had a large share in making it so. The cheerfulness and interest with which our requests are met by the Red Cross Society are one of its greatest assets and is much appreciated by matrons.

I wish to thank you, in anticipation, on behalf of the patients for the billiard table you so kindly said you would try to get for us. This will be a never-ending source of pleasure for our patients, who are nearly all able to be up, but have to remain, sometimes, for long periods, for treatment, and the life in a hospital must be irksome for men who feel bodily fit but are more or less depressed by ear and eye and throat defects ; so you can imagine how a billiard table will appeal to them. It was the patients who suggested asking you for the table as our bagatelle table is overworked and there is always a long line of men waiting for a turn.

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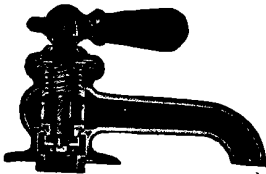


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FROM A PRISONER OF WAR :

October 28th, 1917.

I esteem it my duty to write you a letter of thanks in regards to the good work you are doing concerning Prisoners of War. I have received parcels from you now for the past two years, both regular and in excellent condition.

I can not express my thanks and praise towards the Society too well. I have acknowledged these parcels, but in case you have not received the cards, I wish to thank you again for overcoat and boots, cardigan and shoes, also uniform, all received in good condition. I must say I am very thankful for anything you send me, and by no means will I forget the Red Cross after the war.

I will not make this letter too long, but I think you will understand my feelings towards the Society.

I don't know if the prisoners write private letters to the Society or not, but if they are as thankful as I am, I sincerely trust they will do likewise.

LETTERS OF THANKS FOR THE SOCIETY'S PARCELS FROM SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL :

I have a pleasant duty to perform, although I doubt very much if I am capable of expressing my feeling of how I felt when I received your parcel yesterday, of just the things I needed. It's just lovely the way us Canadian boys are looked after by the Red Cross, and it all helps to build up a man.

All the other boys in the ward were surprised this morning when they found out that us three Canadian boys had special Xmas socks. When they asked where I got mine, this was my reply—"Although we are far from home by thousands of miles, and fighting for the motherland and freedom, we still belong to dear Canada, and so the Canadian women look after us wherever we go in France or Flanders, it's just the same ; and it doesn't matter what hospital we're in, they always make their best to find us, and see that we are enjoying all the comfort and happiness possible." Please convey my thanks to the Canadian Red Cross Society, and many thanks to you in particular for looking after us so well.

Just a line to let you know I received your Christmas stocking, and it is hard for me to explain how I appreciate it, for everything is so useful, and the raisins surprised me awfully much as I have been on this side of the water for two years, and never seen a package of raisins, and to get them for Christmas was such a surprise. It was awfully kind of you people to think of me, as I am hundreds of miles away from my home in Nova Scotia. Wishing you all a very Happy New Year, for which we all wish you a victorious one, and think myself that it will bring us victory, I still remain as ever a Canadian.

I shall always think of your kindness with pleasure, that while I was away from loved ones, our Red Cross so cheered me up and looked after me. I beg to acknowledge receipt of one dozen eggs, also fruit and a cardigan jacket, for which I can only say, "thank you."

With a great pleasure, I must acknowledge your most welcome parcel. I cannot think of any thanksgiving sentence that I could write down in a letter, but I hope the recording angel booked what you have done for me. I have no relatives to praise my deeds and sympathize with my hardships, so it is good to feel you take notice of me.

TO ONE OF OUR HOSPITAL VISITORS FROM A CANADIAN SOLDIER WHO HAD BEEN IN WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL FOR FIVE MONTHS, HAVING LOST ONE OF HIS LEGS :

The next time you are in the Canadian Red Cross offices, will you kindly give them my change of address. I know they would like to have it in order to keep their records correct. Please accept my sincere thanks for all the kindness you have shown to me while in Westminster Hospital. There are some things in this old world we forget about, other things we try to forget as the memory of them is not pleasant, especially memories of France, but there is one bright spot I will never forget, and that is the kindness and good care shown to me while in hospital, by its entire staff of doctors and nurses, and now that my name is a memory, I hope it will be a pleasant one there. I cannot close without a word of thanks to the Canadian Red Cross for all the kindness and good things they provided for my pleasure and comfort and to aid me to complete recovery of health again. Also for the many pleasant visits of the Red Cross ladies. I would like to wish the Canadian Red Cross and Westminster Hospital "God-speed" in the good work they are doing, and may the day soon come to bring an end to this old war and bring victory and peace to our country and Empire once again.



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FROM SOLDIER'S RELATIVE

I have just received your fourth letter regarding my brother's progress in hospital, and I wish to let you know how grateful I am for your hopeful messages. When I am feeling in the blues there comes along the large envelope with the small red cross, and when its contents are devoured, why ! it's a sure cure for lonely hearts.

FROM A GRATEFUL SOLDIER

Will you please accept a soldier's appreciation of the wonderful work of the Canadian Red Cross Society ? I was brought here from France just a week ago Wednesday, and within two days a gentleman called representing your Society and cheered me up considerably, gave me a lot of helpful advice for the future and treated me generally like an elder brother and did me more good than medicine. Before going away he gave me a bag made of khaki with a Red Cross on the front, containing all the most useful things a derelict soldier wanted. To-day another representative came and stayed and talked quite a long time, and when one considers the number of call these gentlemen have to make, one marvels that they are considerate and helpful. I wish you God-speed in your good work and wanted to say how sure I am of the appreciation of the Canadian boys of the help of your Society.

FROM A SOLDIER'S WIFE

I respectfully beg to state that I am extremely grateful to you and all connected with above Hospital (Canadian Military, Orpington) for your very kind attention to my husband. He writes that he has received the most devoted kindness and attention from the whole of the hospital staff, and to use his own words. "I love to have such good, kind ladies, who with all their hard tasks do not seem in the least bit in a hurry to get rid of us. I cannot speak too highly of all concerned at our military hospital. They make a fellow feel as if he were right at home."

FROM A SOLDIER'S MOTHER

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter with details about my son's condition, and note the remarks you make, for which I thank you. It is indeed a splendid Society that takes such care of our brave boys. I am and have been a subscriber to the Canadian Red Cross for two and a half years and this is the first time personally I have had the honour of acknowledging my very great indebtedness to it.

FROM A SOLDIER'S RELATIVES

It is very hard for me to express my sincere thanks in words for your great kindness in finding the names of those who knew of ———'s death. His sister got a letter from one of these boys, saying all he saw at the time this brave hero fell. It was sure great to hear something of how bravely he had died for his King and Country.

FROM A SOLDIER IN HOSPITAL

Just a few lines to say that I received your welcome parcel. I did not think that I had any friend in the world, but I see that I have. I don't know what we would do without our Red Cross.

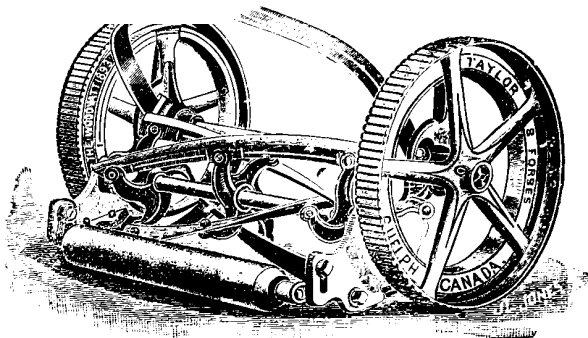
FROM A SOLDIER IN HOSPITAL

On receipt of the small kit that I received last night, I am now writing to you to show how much we boys appreciate your splendid work for us while we are in hospital and in France. I am awfully pleased to get the small kit, as I did not have anything of any sort, as I was blinded with shell gas for two or three days and could not keep my things, all of which disappeared—no one knows where ; but it does not matter now, and I am quite satisfied to be where I am to-day for it is just like being at home.

FROM A GRATEFUL RELATIVE.

Toronto, October, 1917.

We received your very kind letter and very much appreciate your kindness in letting us know of Pte. ———'s condition. He had already written us that he was in the ——— Hospital, sent back from France, and that he was all right, and not to worry, and that is all we knew about him, so you can perhaps imagine how grateful we were when we received your letter giving us details. We also appreciated what he himself told us about your Society, saying that he had someone to visit him and that they had told him to be sure and let them know if he needed anything. We took your letter up to the ——— Red Cross Society and it was read up there and I



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think that it helped us all to realize that the work done in Canada for the Red Cross really meant something definite to Canadian boys overseas.

FROM A SOLDIER.

London, January 1918.

As I am leaving here to-morrow and have been here a long time, I am writing these few lines to thank you and all for the way you have looked after me during my confinement here and for the many kindnesses done for me by the Red Cross before and after my operation.

So thanking you, one and all, and wishing the Red Cross every success, and I know the boys are very proud of the Red Cross Society as they sure look after us, hoping you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

West Toronto, 20-12-1917.

I am very grateful to you for your kindness in sending me word about Gnr. —. You may depend, it is a great comfort to the ones at home to think there is a Society who are doing all they can to make it brighter for our wounded sons and also for the mothers and fathers at home. I had a letter from my son, informing me that the Canadian Red Cross Society had sent him a bag of useful articles. He says, "I tell you, Mother, it came in good." The Canadians are brave and will do their duty, no matter where they are placed. I will say, in closing, God bless the Red Cross Society all over our Land.

FROM A SOLDIER.

Epsom, Surrey, 2-1-18.

I now take the opportunity to write you these few lines. I arrived here O.K. and find it very comfortably equipped for all conveniences, etc., but the weather is very cold and damp. We had a quiet New Year. I have met a great many boys here I know and also who have come in contact with you and I have the pleasure of saying that everyone appreciates the good work of the Canadian Red Cross and the comforts and attentions they have received from them and you individually. You may give my sincere thanks to the Society for us and our best wishes for their success under such straining efforts.

FROM A CANADIAN SAILOR.

On Board H.M.S. —, 2-1-1918.

I have just received the welcome roll of Hamilton papers and I am very thankful to you for them. As to the Christmas here, I received no parcels but the papers you sent. I am not downhearted at all, for I am in the best of health now again after my three months' illness last spring, and I seem to stand the cold quite well. We have had lots of cold, snow, rain and high winds here at sea (somewhere in the North Sea). The papers are quite a treat to me, as I am able to hear from home, more by them than I can from a dozen letters. Hoping that you will have a happy and prosperous New Year, I am yours, for King and Country.

FROM MATRON, NO. 8 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, FRANCE.

23rd December, 1917.

I return herewith, duly receipted, Despatch Sheet No. 10115, dated 11th December, covering a consignment of cigarettes, cleaning materials and comforts, also a quantity of athletic supplies, all of which have been received and for which we thank you most heartily.

The athletic supplies, etc., marked for the Chaplain, for use in the "Recreation Hut," have been turned over to the Recreation Committee, who request me, on their behalf, to convey to you their sincere thanks for this very generous donation, which will fill a long felt want in this hospital.

FROM A HOSPITAL IN FRANCE.

21-12-17.

You ask if you will purchase the flags. No: I asked for these because they were requested from the wards and thought if you happened to have them well and good.

The magnificent way in which you are meeting the requests of the patients is wonderful and I apologize for demanding more supplies from you. Our own supply of Christmas stockings has not reached us, hence this extra demand on you.

Again thanking you for the year's work you have done and the kindness extended to us by both you and your staff. I remain as ever.

Yours with best Christmas wishes.

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THANKS FOR CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FROM FORT PITT MILITARY HOSPITAL, CHATHAM, ENGLAND.

Jan. 17th, 1918.

On behalf of the boys in this ward I am writing to thank you for your kindness in sending along the Christmas stockings. The gifts were very much appreciated and we had some fun whilst dividing the contents between us. Again thanking you and wishing your grand work every success.