

OUTPOST HOSPITALS PERFORM GREAT SERVICE

Canadian Red Cross in Forty-Four Districts On Frontiers Treats Over Fifteen Thousand Persons With Very Small Death Rate

By ANNE ANDERSON PERRY

During the past fifteen to twenty years, while immigrants have been pouring into Canada and settling on the frontiers there, have been thousands of the most courageous and enterprising of our citizens in remote sections living from fifty to a hundred miles from doctors and nurses. Often, indeed, families have been born and have died having had neither physician, hospital or the care of a nurse.

It was for people such as these, living in isolated communities, that the Canadian Red Cross, after the war, brought into being the outpost hospital, a high institution, not known before in any country; but which is today being imitated in many other lands. Frequently, the smallest type of outpost is in charge of only one nurse who has to attend to the nursing service of five or six hundred to a thousand people. Her post is in a desolate area. Her outfit consists of a hospital and Red Cross records are filed to the brim with tales of the heroic and invaluable work done by these skilled, devoted women in places where such aid is indispensable to the welfare of individual settlers and community alike. Figures just released by the Red Cross for the year show that six new outposts have been put in operation in 1928, these being the total number of such hospitals throughout Canada to forty-four, in the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Ontario and New Brunswick.

Some 15,202 men, women and children were treated in or through the Outposts in the past year, with a death rate of little over one percent. This record being all the more remarkable when it is recalled that nearly of the 82 nurses, resident in these institutions, have to meet all kinds of emergencies without the aid of medical men. 759 births occurred in the outposts, while the outposts nurses attended 189 women in their homes for their confinements. In only 59 of the latter cases was there any medical attendant, the nurses supervising successfully 130 maternity cases. In all forty-four outposts there is accommodation for 302 adult patients and for 64 children and during the past twelve months 1,557 operations, 350 of which were major, were performed by visiting surgeons. Inpatient numbered 4,367, while 9,855 out-patients came to the outposts for medical or surgical care. As hospital days, 65 patients numbered 47,202 in all the outposts over the entire year and among the many other odd jobs done by the nurses in charge was the medical inspection of 2,544 school children in 175 sections in Northern Ontario, where 112 health talks were also given. It may readily be deduced that the Outpost nurse—particularly perhaps in the 23 New Ontario hospitals—has little time on her hands for rest or pleasure.

Very varied are the shapes assumed by Red Cross Outposts. Some are tiny houses on the extreme frontiers of settlement; some are well equipped eight to twelve roomed hospitals in railway towns where the C.N.R. has been glad to supply building and equipment while the Red Cross attends to operation; some are temporary affairs in caboose or cabin such as the one conducted this year at Woman Lake, New Brunswick. For the intrepid miners and settlers, who still often may be fine new buildings provided by municipalities or districts but under Red Cross management and partial support.

The four new outposts put in operation in Northern Ontario this year are situated at Coe Hill, Reddick, Bone and Brazebridge, while one has been promised at Kakapeka Falls and two others have been requested at Elno and Red Bridge. One was opened in January at Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan, and another at Clair in New Brunswick, while a district nurse was supplied in the district section and a Red Cross car and nurse in the vicinity of Thunder Bay.

It is not difficult to vision what the outpost hospital means to the new settlers in our hinterlands who have to meet life with small means and their naked hands. Think, for instance of that far north outpost at Pouce Coupe in Alberta, five hundred miles west of Edmonton. Just a two roomed house, but well equipped and well "manned" with two trained nurses and in a district as big as some provinces, where the settlers are scattered over hundreds of miles of territory. Or of that one at Carriaga in Saskatchewan, which is twenty miles from Prairie River and forty-five from the nearest doctor; or of the one at Lion's Head at the extreme tip of the Bruce Peninsula in Ontario, where the isolated farmers and fishermen were long in need of such service; or of the life saving stations in Rorketon in Manitoba or Fisher Branch where the single nurses-in-charge have performed prodigies of valor, initiative and skill; or, at St. Leonard's, in New Brunswick where a Red Cross House of Mercy makes a comfortable healing sanctuary for the sick from the lumber camps; or the tiny Red Cross hospitals at Nakina and Hornepayne in northern Ontario where remote railway employees receive healing and help; or in Kirkland Lake and New Liskeard where two outposts have adventurers to the great mining districts.

The policy, followed by the Red Cross in establishing an outpost is that the society goes only where it is asked to go and after a very thorough survey has been made of the type of locality, population, needs and financial possibilities. If it is decided that an outpost is badly needed and the community is unable to even finance a building or equipment, then national societies, the railways or welfare organizations, are approached and support is usually forth-

coming. By adopting this policy and then taking over costs of operation and management, the Red Cross is able to conserve its resources for inevitable deficits, and, in time, numbers of instances has been on which the communities were able to take over the institution as a municipal or district undertaking. For, by expecting the people to rally to the support of the outpost it is found that excellent results are obtained. Not many months ago a unique Outpost was opened at Bonfield in Northern Ontario, where an almost exclusively French and Catholic population accustomed to centering all their activities about the church, were to be served. It was an experiment, but with the able support of the project by priest and nuns, with a local Red Cross organization formed to undertake the furnishings, and a building supplied by the municipality, the Outpost was successfully launched. Every room was tastefully furnished and decorated by the women of the settlement who, muscaded the walls, painted the woodwork, wove the rugs, made and hung the curtains, besides raising money to buy all the furnishings. To-day this outpost is the pride as well as the most highly treasured utility in Bonfield and the enterprise is no longer an experiment. The Red Cross outpost has demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that every community wants and needs a small hospital; it has shown that one way to reduce maternal and infant mortality is to provide prenatal as well as natal and post-natal nursing care for the mother; it has rendered comparatively safe the settlement in remote districts which was once so perilous a matter for the family of the pioneer; and it is going far to prove that the money invested by itself or community which finances outposts is in the nature of a very profitable investment.



SOPHISTICATED CHIC.

A patterned wool jersey in bright red tones uses plain crepe de chine in harmonizing red shades for collar and cuffs and inset pocket, piped with black grosgrain ribbon, which is piped in scarf tie. The belt is black leather. It's so simple, so smart and so wearable, and made at a small outlay.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS. Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred), wrap carefully for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Patterns sent by an early mail.

White Ruin in East Africa Stephen Gwynn in the Fortnightly Review: Tutelage is only justified as a preparation for some period when tutelage will cease. But in West Africa withdrawal may be more easily contemplated because there is no permanent settlement of white men in East Africa the problem is different, for apparently there are large regions where the European can perpetuate his race as at the Cape. From the standpoint of the native population, there is a strong case for maintaining a system of indirect rule—directing, developing and devising native law and custom instead of abolishing them; and there is no likelihood that this will be carried out with full regard for the native interest except under the rule of a bureaucracy like the Indian Civil Service.

What is the naughtiest letter of the alphabet? The letter "Z" because it is always in trouble and never out of mischief.

The Lighter Side of Europe's Freeze Up



While many loud complaints are voiced about the recent cold in Europe, enthusiasts such as these skaters on Wimbledon Common, London, don't care how long it continues.

LIMERICK CORNER

Joyous Jingles By Gifted Rhymsters

The Contest is closed. For the time being at any rate, the Limerick Contest will be discontinued. There is no question, however, about its popularity with readers as we are literally swamped with letters and there are hours of work ahead to get through with those at present on hand. While we are catching up we will be glad to hear from those who have taken part in the contest, or who have found pleasure in following it in the papers. Let us know what you think of the Limerick Corner and whether or not you would like to see this feature continued.

On the other hand, if you have any ideas for a feature to take the place of Limerick Corner, let us have them. Editor, Limerick Corner, Associated Publishers, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.

Following are the selections for this week:—

- SHREDDED WHEAT**
There is a young 'girl they call Bunny,
Whose temper is always quite sunny.
For breakfast she'll eat
Nothing but Shredded Wheat,
With milk, or with fruit, or with honey.
- Mrs. M. E. Calder,
Fenelon Falls, Ont.
- CHIPSO**
A jolly young woman named Chipso
Boiled all her clothes with soap
Chipso.
They were nice, sweet and clean,
Just fit for the Queen,
So for ever she'll always praise
Chipso.
- Mrs. T. H. Weatherill,
Maxwell, Ont.
- BROCK'S BIRD SEED**
My auntie, who has a canary,
Tried to get it to sing Tipperary,
But the bird would not heed
Till he gave it Brock's seed;
Now it sings night and day for
Aunt Mary.
- Mrs. Gladie Bongard,
Box 24, Norwood, Ont.
- RED ROSE TEA**
There was an old lady named Susan,
Who lived in the town of Van
Duzee.
I drink Red Rose Tea,
"That's the reason," said she,
I can work while my neighbor is
snoring."
- Miss Bernice Hall,
R.F. No. 2, Sundridge, Ont.
- CHRISTIE'S BISCUITS**
At the last birthday party of
Hannah's
We had oranges, nuts and bananas,
We had goodies galore,
But we all wanted more
When she brought in some "Christie's
Sultans."
- Edie McCormick,
R.F. No. 5, Parkhill, Ont.
- SALADA TEA**
Of strange labels be always sus-
picious,
Though your grocer may be quite
officialous,
Say Salada's the tea,
Mr. Grocer, for me,
For I know that each cup is de-
licious.
- Mrs. Rene Clendenen,
Markham, Ont.
- KEEN'S MUSTARD**
Said a comical jigger named Bue-
lard,
"Have you ever chased hard over
custard?"
"We said, "Oh, dear no,
We'd be shocked to do so,
But we're frightfully keen on
Keen's Mustard."
- Mrs. A. McNeil,
Norwood, Ont.
- CASTORIA**
One night a young lady was treat-
ing,
In spite of it a kind mother's petting,
Castoria she gave it,
It certainly did save it,
And now nothing else it is getting.
- Mrs. A. P. Knight,
Parkhill, Ont.
- DIAMOND DYES**
If you want to have papa his penny,
And make yourself winsome for
Benny,
Diamond Dyes is a prize
That will dazzle your eyes
For 'twill make your old clothes
bright as any."
- Miss Emma McLean,
Maple Leaf, Ont.
- CHRISTIE'S BISCUITS**
There was an old lady called
Hannah,
Who slipped on a rotten banana,
She cared not a bit,
But sat where she lit
And nibbled a Christie Sultana.
- Miss Kathi on Welch,
Hemphill Street,
Blenholm, Ont.

DIAMOND DYES

If your wardrobe is shabby and faded,
Don't look so heartbroken and jaded,
Your spirits will rise
If you use diamond dyes,
And you'll look like a queen when
paraded.

Mrs. C. A. Landon,
Orangeville, Ont.

CHRISTIE'S BISCUITS

Now I tell you that Little Jack
Borner,
Is still in the same famous corner,
But I know that he sits
Eating Christie's Biscuits,
Not plum pies as in histories
former.

Mr. J. H. McVittie,
Milford Haven,
St. Joseph's Island, Ont.

DIAMOND DYES

When doing your dyeing of dresses,
To shades which go well with your
trusses,
Use good Diamond Dyes,
For in them there lies
An assurance of beauty, not
guesses!

Miss Mabel Whitwell,
Jarys, Ont.

LEONARD'S EAR OIL

There was a dear man in Port
Royal,
Who used Leonard's famous Ear
Oil,
They say he now hears
With both of his ears
More than anyone else in Port
Royal.

Mr. Bruce Rowbotham,
Sturville, Ont.

BIG BEN CHEWING TOBACCO

Said my wife, "Do you know, my
"For in them there lies
That chewing that "weed" makes
you "yella?"
But of Big Ben, she swore
"You shall chew more and more
Till I get a new purple umbrella."

Mrs. T. W. Hicks,
R.R. No. 2, Niagara
Falls, Ont.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

If you're sickly and weak and don't
dare to
Attempt all your work as you'd care
to,
Then try Beecham's Pills,
They will cure all the ills
And the aches and the pains that
we're heir to.

Mrs. E. McCormick,
R.R. No. 5, Parkhill, Ont.

V.O.N. Headquarters

Supplies Nurses With Buttons And Other Things

When five people undertook to re-
mind the Victorian Order nurse in
one of our western towns that she had
lost a button from the front of her
uniform, it was time for the nurse to
write in to Central Office at Ottawa
and ask for more. Eight buttons
dresses to each Victorian Order nurse
and 200 Victorian Order nurses across
Canada equals 2,400 buttons and some
extra ones for emergencies.

Not only does Central Office in Ot-
tawa supply the nurses in each of its
districts with buttons for their uni-
form, The National Headquarters is
the liaison officer between the Victo-
rian Order nurse and the Canadian
public; she serves so well, each local
Victorian Order district is largely
autonomous; but receives guidance
from Ottawa in matters of policy. The
National Office also acts as a bank of
service, provides supervision and as-
sists through correspondence and by
visit in solving local problems, and
strengthening relationships with other
national and provincial organizations.

According to figures published re-
cently in Central Office, Victorian Order
nurses in 122 made a total of
628,909 visits to Canadian homes. Of
these, 183,925 were to maternity cases.



What you do

Trade of Canada continues to in-
crease. For the twelve months ended
February 28th, the Dominion's total
trade was \$2,631,229,401, an increase
of \$23,552,063 over the previous cor-
responding twelve months. This total
is made up of \$1,380,424,433 exports
and \$1,250,804,968 imports.

WILL ROGERS:
"He is going first to San
Antonio to check up their am-
bush. He ought to keep him
a quarter of an hour in New
York Times."

British Settlers

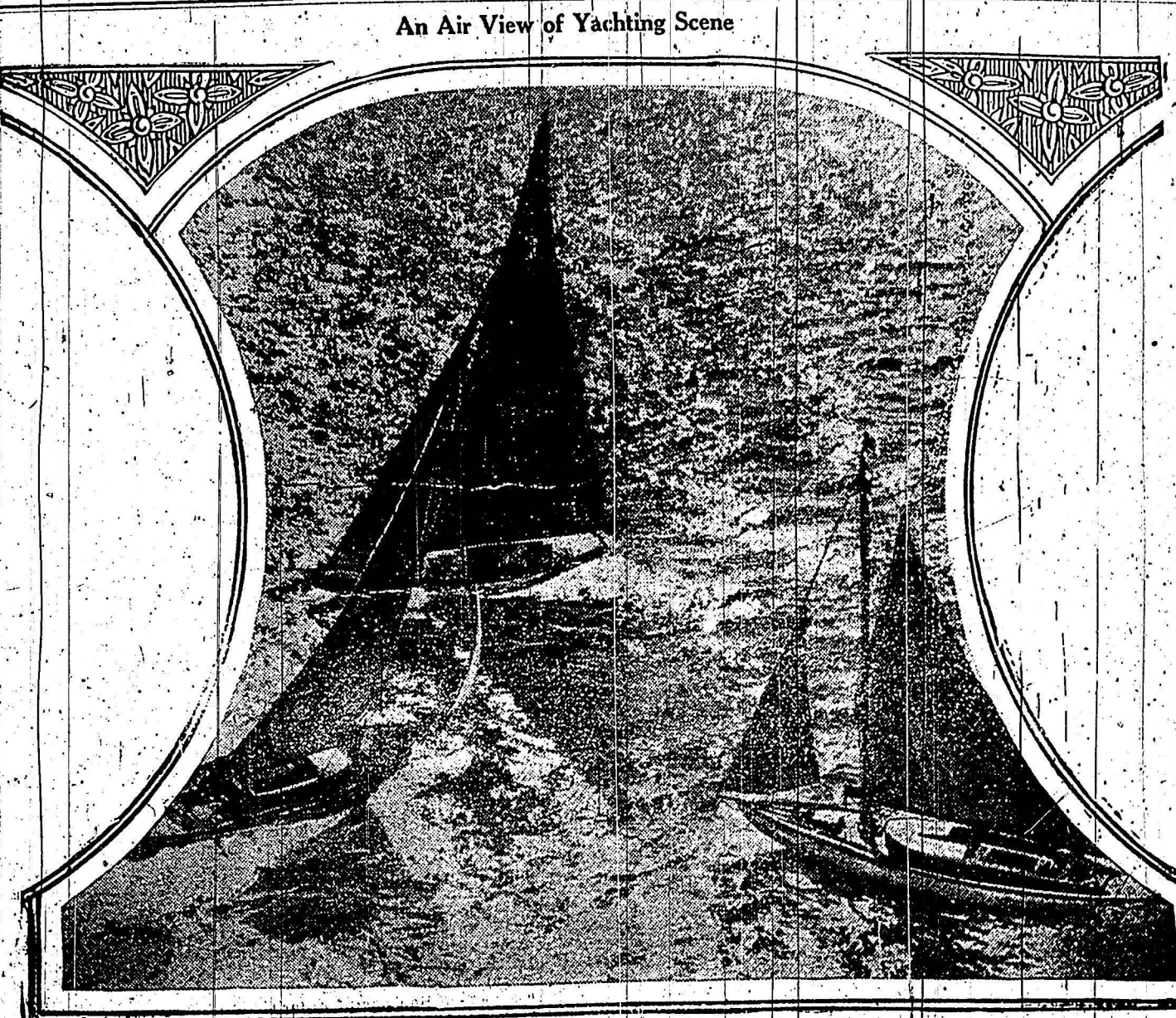
Britain (London): No condem-
nation of British political parties, no
re-orientation of the Canadian
immigration policy, can undo the fact,
present to all observers in Canada, that
the inclination of native Canadians is
toward a firmer alliance with the United
States rather than any tightening
of ties with the Old Country.
Englishmen explore this tendency,
and from my own knowledge of this
country for twenty years, I am satis-
fied that American influence is far
greater now than at any other time
and is rapidly growing.—H. Stewart
Oppes, of Vancouver, B.C.

The Immigration and the Dole

Toronto Telegram (Int. Con.): The
protest of the District Trades and
Labor Council against the continuance
of the Dole to British workmen who
migrate to Canada is timely. A new
country cannot be built up on the
system. Canada, the land of oppor-
tunity, has no place for settlers who
cannot take advantage of their oppor-
tunities. And the man who is able
and willing to take advantage of his
opportunities can make a living in
Canada without any outside assistance

Kicking Him—Why?

Back from a trip to Boston, Mass.,
Earl Brockbridge of Owen Sound,
says that in an out-of-the-way corner
of a Boston graveyard stands a brown
head showing the marks of age and
decay. It bears the inscription,
"Sacred to the memory of Eben Har-
vey, who departed this life suddenly,
and unexpectedly by a cow kicking
him on the 15th of September, 1853.
Wah! Wah, thou good and faithful
servant."



A WET SHEET AND A FLOWING SEA WITH WIND THAT FOLLOWS FAST IN BERMUDA
Trim champions tracing a patch across the blue waters of the Atlantic at Bermuda Regatta.

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What you do

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