

THE CANADIAN BRANCH OF THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

President

J. M. Courtney, C.M.G., I.S.O., Ottawa.

Vice-Presidents

Mr. Justice Chisholm, Halifax.
Brig.-Gen. The Hon. James Mason, Toronto.
C. G. Pennock, Vancouver.
Sir Augustus Nanton, Winnipeg
W. F. Angus, Montreal.

Chairman of Executive

Fred Cook, Ottawa.

Honorary Treasurer

Sir George Burn, Ottawa.

Honorary Secretary

Charles G. Cowan, Ottawa.

General Secretary

Lt. Col. R. J. Birdwhistle, Ottawa.
Head Office, 15 Castle Bldg.

Executive Committee

The above named Officials, and A. D. MacTier; Brig.-Gen. Sir Henry M. Pellatt, C.V.O.; Dr. C. J. Copp; Col. D. T. Irwin, C.M.G.; Gen. G. Carleton Jones, C.M.G.; James Manuell; Dr. F. Montzambert, C.M.G., I.S.O.; J. F. Orde, K.C.; Hon. N. A. Belcourt; Hon. Sir L. H. Davies, K.C.M.G.; Surg.-General G. S. Ryerson; Lt.-Col. Alfred Thompson, M.P.; M.D.; Lt.-Col. J. Alex. Hutchison, M.D.; Sanford Evans

The St. John Ambulance Association is the Ambulance Department of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, a most ancient Order possessing an unbroken record dating back to the eleventh century, and from which the Red Cross movement, to-day so largely in the public eye, derives its origin. From this most historic Order of St. John of Jerusalem is descended the distinguished Order as it is known to the present generation, and this in its turn brought into existence the St. John Ambulance Association as we now know it. Such is, in very brief form, the background of history from which the St. John Ambulance Association and its offshoot the St. John Ambulance Brigade have evolved, and never surely had a good cause such inspiring memories to draw upon.

The device of the Red Cross was adopted at the time of the Geneva Convention in 1863, the Congress adopting the arms of the City of Geneva, only reversing its colours. The Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, as it then existed, was represented at the International Conference of Red Cross Societies held in Berlin (*obisit omen*) in 1869, but the real beginning of the ambulance movement as we know it dates from the Franco-German War of 1870, when it was seen that no Red Cross Society could fulfil its duties in time of war unless it were properly organized in time of peace. What has been done for field hospitals by Florence Nightingale has been done for ambulance work generally by the St. John Ambulance Association. For the last forty years its powers and organization have been steadily developing, not only in the British Isles but through the Empire, so that India, Canada, South Africa, Australia, and all the other Dominions have now their own splendid organizations, while in Jerusalem it maintains the British Ophthalmic Hospital. All these are integral parts of the Ambulance Department of the Order of St. John.

The Association was founded in 1877, and the Canadian Branch was organized in 1910, with headquarters at Ottawa. The objects are: