

"You will be to us as the Italians of the great days of Italy, as Garibaldi and Mazzini and Cavour and the Cairolis, and thousands of others are to the present-day Italians—the great figures of their country's history, the redeeming memories which have survived into a meaner and a poorer age.

"And for those who do not return—for them there will be an even tenderer regard, and a more affectionate and wistful memory. You will be canonised even, it may be, as time goes on and memory lends her magic and distance her enchantments; and in the tears and heartache of your friends, there will be only grief and respect, and a desire that our children and children's children may be worthy of you; that the young life which will still be rioting round these University halls may be keyed up to your pattern and take to heart your example. Not unhappy surely is the nation which makes such pedestals for its dead, and not unhappy the fate of the young man who is set thereon."

On February 25th a special Convocation was held to confer degrees on nearly fifty of those who were then about to go overseas. On this occasion was first put into force the decision to grant to all students going on active service a certain measure of academic credit. The conditions varied in the different faculties. In Arts each student was granted one year's standing or a part thereof. Thus later most of those who returned were enabled to complete their courses with three year's study. To the members of the staff who were absent on service the University granted half their annual salary until their return.

In March came a call for recruits in the 25th Battery of the 7th Artillery Brigade. Nearly a section was raised from within the University in a few days. The departure of these men for Ottawa on the night of the 16th will long be remembered by many, as it was the first opportunity of giving a send-off to a large group of University students. A few days later another section was raised for the 26th Battery and left amid similar enthusiasm for Kingston.

During the same month was raised the unit which has been most closely identified with this University's name—No. 4 General Hospital, whose service is recorded in a later section. On May 5th in Convocation Hall the University bade its members farewell, and ten days later they sailed from Montreal. To provide the needful equipment for this unit the University Women's Hospital Association was now organised and continued its work for the four following years.

The session closed a month earlier than usual in this and the following years. The examinations were held in April and Commencement in May. The proceedings at Convocation on May 21st, 1915, were comparatively brief and were sad rather than joyous, for the second battle of Ypres had recently been fought and several sons of the University