

and non-combatants alike, upon the mercy and charity of their fellow-men. We cannot foresee, we tremble to think, how this area of destruction may be widened in the dark days that lie ahead. Yet it is our manifest and sacred duty to support to the utmost our Canadian branch of this great international and truly Christian society, in its efforts to alleviate the suffering and misery universally attendant upon the prosecution of a war.

I have said that the high purposes of the Society constitute their own challenge to our generosity and compassion. So, too, does the past record of the Canadian Red Cross. It is a tried and proven servant of our national life. Like all responsible organizations, it was not found unprepared. At the outbreak of war, the Red Cross had mobilized its forces, had brought together its national officers from coast to coast, and was formulating its plans to meet the present emergency. Within three days it was at work in every province of Canada. It ensured for itself sources of indispensable supplies, now