

Canadian Red Cross
1945

The Canadian Red Cross has about 700,000 women working in their field
 10,000 groups throughout Canada.
 Since the war began in 1939, volunteer women workers have produced
 millions of articles of comfort, clothing and medical equipment for the
 fighting forces and needy civilians. More than 25,000,000 articles have
 been shipped overseas, \$2,250,000 in 1943 alone. Total distribution to
 units in Canada was 1,300,000 articles, and to Newfoundland 250,000
 articles in 1943.
 In five centers packing plants at Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg
 and Vancouver, volunteers are packing 100,000 food parcels a week for
 dispatch of war. Each food parcel has a value of \$2.00 calories and other
 about \$2.50 laid down in Geneva. More than 500,000 acknowledgments of
 supplies of war parcels from the Canadian Red Cross have been received.
 Red Cross blood donor clinics, now numbering about 25, are established
 largely by women volunteers who take temperatures, register patients,
 handle records and prepare notifications furnished to the donors. During
 1943, 121,000 donations were given through 25 clinics. The average number
 of weekly donations for 1943 was 3,482. The record so far in 1944 has
 been 6,222 donations in the week of March 13. The objective for 1944 is
 12,000 donations a week. There are two mobile blood donor units in
 operation visiting communities and reaching provincially.
 Disaster relief contingents of the Red Cross are concentrated on the
 east and west coasts, with approximately 10 mobile surgical units and 25
 25-bed emergency hospitals based at strategic points where they can be
 moved in facilities not equipped to handle great numbers of casualties.
 There are about 4,000 women workers in Canadian Red Cross centers in
 transport, nursing auxiliary, first aid, ambulance and food distribution
 sections. There is also a voluntary section. The first contingent to
 be sent overseas during the war was the first contingent in February and included
 representatives of all sections.
 During the 14 years since the organization's first start, and since
 nursing, the Red Cross has accumulated a large reserve of money, over
 100,000 men and women, and more than 250,000 of these have been given
 in the four years 1942 to 1944.

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