

*Extract from a letter dated the 22nd August, 1896, to Dr. G. Sterling Ryerson, referred to in the foregoing Resolution.*

"As you express the desire for a clear definition of your work before you commence to organize, I am to suggest the following heads as a basis upon which the proposed Canadian Branch of this Society should be formed, and which would meet with the approval of the Society.

(1). That the Branch be called the "Canadian Branch of the British National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War."

(2). That a council be formed of sufficient influence to give public confidence.

(3). That it be recognized that the primary work of the Branch is to render aid to the sick and wounded soldiers in time of war by offering supplemental assistance: (a) To the Army Medical Department of Canada, or (b) To the parent Society, should England be engaged in war. (c) To the belligerents of any other countries engaged in war who recognize the neutrality of the Red Cross and express themselves willing to accept aid through the British Society by its Canadian Branch.

(4). That all its domestic affairs, such as enrolling members, collecting subscriptions, appointing officers, training nurses, etc., be entirely under its own control.

(5). That the work of the Red Cross Branch be kept entirely distinct from any branch of the St. John Ambulance Association in Canada.

(6). That the special use for which the Red Cross badge was designed, under Article 7 of the Convention of Geneva, 1864, shall be borne in mind, and all possible means taken to insure its non-abuse.

(Signed) JAMES G. VOKES, Secretary.

It is under this authority that the Canadian Red Cross Society carries on its beneficent work.

7. Upon the declaration of war by the South African Republics in October, 1899, and before Colonial aid by contingents of soldiers was authorized, the executive issued an appeal to the Canadian public to prepare for and carry on Red Cross work amongst the sick and wounded of the Imperial army, not then thinking that the aid of the Society would be required for our own Canadian troops.
8. The principles and methods of the Red Cross being practically unknown to the Canadian public, information was disseminated by means of pamphlets and through the public press, whose columns were most generously placed at the disposal of the Council.
9. The despatch to the seat of war of the First Contingent of Canadians stimulated the public to action, and the Council was able to place in the hands of the commanding officer before his