

# PATRIOTIC SOUVENIR

— PUBLISHED FOR —

## HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

— OF —

### PAARDEBURG CHAPTER I.O.D.E.

The Hospital Committee of Paardeburg Chapter started its work in April 1915. It began in a modest way to make supplies for No. 2 Canadian Hospital in France, to which a number of Hamilton officers were attached. One hundred dollars was donated by the Chapter, and this was augmented by a few private subscriptions. This money was exhausted in about two shipments and it was found necessary to raise more funds if the work was to be continued.

The Committee then decided to try something larger and to extend its work to the Canadian Hospitals in France in general. With the assistance of the Mayor of Hamilton, the clergy, the local Press, the Regimental and Salvation Army Bands, a Hospital Sunday was held the first Sunday in May, 1915. Young ladies with collection boxes stood at all the church doors on that day and they circulated in the streets and among the people who

had assembled in the parks to hear the bands play; and they reaped a goodly harvest. The collection on that day amounted to nearly four thousand dollars, and it was with this that the real work began.

Mrs. W. H. Bruce wife of Lieut.-Col. Bruce, C. O., of the 173rd. Battalion, put her old home, the Billings' Residence, at 17 Jackson Street West, at the disposal of the Committee, and it is there that the work has been carried on ever since. The home was equipped with all the necessary furniture, such as sewing-machines, trestle-tables, chairs, desks, stoves—in fact, everything necessary for work and comfort. Through the kindness of some of the plumbers and carpenters of the city, some necessary improvements were made. A furnace was donated and installed by one of the manufacturers, and the winter's coal was supplied by a number of the city coal-merchants. All these things were