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## Canada's Amateur Soldiers

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**R**ECRUITING in Canada, under the voluntary system, is practically at an end; there are a few enthusiasts who will deny such statements. Canada's army of 350,000 full-blooded volunteers is located in French trenches, British concentration camps, and on troopships proceeding "east." Practically all the men who have enlisted for overseas service are out of the country, and the question of procuring more is now before Parliament—a burning national issue.

Since April, 1915, we have been reading of the glorious exploits of our men overseas. The name of Canada has taken on a new meaning. Congratulatory messages have been received by Sir Robert Borden, as the chief representative of the Dominion, and by the Generals commanding the Canadian forces overseas. Such place-names as St. Julien, Festubert, St. Eloi, The Orchard, Ypres Salient, Somme, Courcelette, Ancre, Vimy

Ridge, and Fresnoy, are names that will receive the special attention of the future historians, because in these places Canadian valour was tested, in these places Canada plighted her troth with the liberty-loving nations of the world.

Who did this? Amid the distractions of the clash and clang of war, the bereavements and the sacrifices of the past two years the recorders of war events have failed to draw attention to the classes and types of men who composed the immortal First Contingent, and of the contingents, battalions and units which have followed in its train.

At the recent sitting of the Parliamentary Committee in Toronto, when evidence was obtained with a view to guiding the Federal Government in its legislative plans affecting the returned soldier, Mr. Fred Pardee, M.P., asked Major Wilson, of Military District No. 2, what type of officer or military man should control the military hospitals.