

piece of warwork, which started as soon as the needs of the fighting men in France became known, was the organization of centres for the knitting of socks and the preparation of other articles required by the soldiers. Somebody has said that the number of pairs of socks shipped overseas was probably larger than the population of Canada, and the Daughters of the Empire prepared, collected and despatched a large proportion of them. When the call came from the Red Cross for bandages and other hospital necessities, thousands of bales were prepared and sent across the water. Also at Christmas time, special bundles of good things went to the fighting men who were away from Canada. It would not be possible to estimate the quantity or the value of such gifts sent by the primary chapters.

Early in 1915, the stories began to reach Canada of the treatment being received by our men who had been so unfortunate as to fall into the hands of the Germans. Food had to be sent to them at regular intervals in order that they might not starve to death. The sending of food was something like venture of faith. Even when prisoners wrote home that they were receiving the food, people feared that the Germans might not be permitting them to tell the truth about their treatment, and the women were haunted by the suspicion that the parcels were not reaching their destination. Still, the primary chapters adopted hundreds of prisoners of war and continued to give faithfully in the hope that the brave men were being benefitted. Now that the war is over, the Daughters of the Empire have the satisfaction of knowing that almost all the Canadians who have returned from Germany bear testimony to the value of the parcels of food. Many of our men would have died of starvation in a