

# Field Comforts

No. 3.

OCTOBER, 1916.

2d.



THE CANADIAN FIELD COMFORTS COMMISSION  
MOORE BARRACKS :: :: SHORNCLIFFE

The Canadian Field Comforts Commission :

MARY PLUMMER, Capt.

JOAN L. ARNOLDI, Lieut.

D. LENORE McMEANS, Lieut.

MABEL I. FINN, "

M. WINIFRED CRITCHLEY, "

SARA E. SPENCER, "

MARY R. GORDON, "

*Headquarters* :—

MOORE BARRACKS,

SHORNCLIFFE, ENGLAND.

*Telegrams* :— } "COMFORTS, SHORNCLIFFE,"  
*Cables* :— }

Canadian Shipping Addresses :—

*Summer*—c/o F. McCOURT, Esq.,

DOMINION IRON & STEEL CO.'S WAREHOUSE,  
MONTREAL.

*Winter*—c/o Lt.-Colonel DES ROSIERS, A.D.S. & T.

SHED 7,

ST. JOHN, N.B.

# FIELD COMFORTS.

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## REMEMBER.

That the Canadian Field Comforts Commission is the organised Government Agency for the distribution of Field Comforts.

That the Militia Department, in organising this Commission, enabled the women of Canada to use the Military organisation for forwarding extra supplies to their soldiers.

That the Commission, being in close touch with the officers and men as they go out to the front, can carry on a more intelligent and personal distribution.

That Field Comforts are not superfluous.

That regular monthly contributions either of money or goods are a great assistance to the Commission in keeping up their supplies.

That the supplies most needed are as follows:—

Socks, gloves, half-gloves, underwear, shirts, sleeveless sweaters, small towels, handkerchiefs, housewives, leather bootlaces, small books, magazines, candles, sweets, cocoa, soup-tablets, pipes, note-paper, insect powder, toilet paper, pencils, cards, trench cookers, tobacco, cigarettes and gum.

That many articles in the above list are bought to good advantage in England, the Commission having very satisfactory arrangements with different wholesale houses.

That parcels sent through the Commission to specially designated regiments, if plainly marked, are forwarded direct to those regiments.

That it is not advisable to send small parcels for individual soldiers through the Commission; they go more quickly if posted direct to the individual.

That packages should be forwarded by freight wherever practicable. Freight charges need not be prepaid.

That all packages, whether for general distribution or to be forwarded to special units or individuals, should be sent to the Canadian shipping agencies of the Commission and marked "Charges Collect."

## NOTES.

THIS LEAFLET is meant to give some idea of how we work and under what conditions. We call it "Field Comforts" because that is the term we originated to cover the clothing and comforts sent us to forward to our men in the field. We have many requests from the front, both from officers and men, for these extra supplies so we know that they are wanted. We have many warm letters of thanks for our bales so we know that they are appreciated. We send direct to the front to our own men and we are really in touch with them, so please send us all that you can of comforts for distribution or money to purchase them.

FROM DIVISIONAL ORDERS by Brigadier-General J. C. MacDougall, C.M.G., Commanding Canadian Training Division.

Shorncliffe,

14th August, 1916.

Promotion 4265. To be temporary Honorary Captain, C.E.F., with effect 11.8.16:—Hon. Lieut. M. Plummer, Can. Field Comforts Commission (Auth.M.M. & D. (JWC) 8.3.4/11.8.16.).

Shorncliffe, 17th Aug.

Appointment 4323. To be temporary Honorary Lieutenant, C.E.F., with effect 1.3.16, and posted to the Canadian Field Comforts Commission:—Miss Mabel Finn. (Auth.M.M. & D. (JWC) 6.F.89/10.8.16.).

Shorncliffe, 19th Aug.

Appointment 4368. To be temporary Honorary Lieutenants, C.E.F., with effect 16.8.16, and posted to the Canadian-Field Comforts Commission:—Mrs. M. W. Critchley, Miss M. R. Gordon, Miss S. E. Spencer. (Auth.M.M. & D. (JWC) 6.M.8/16.8.16.).

THE C.F.C.C. AUXILIARY has been organised since our last leaflet and is of great service in our work. The report of the Auxiliary is given in this number and that of the Dew Drop Inn Committee whose interest and help are also warmly appreciated and welcomed by us.

MESSRS. PRICE, WATERHOUSE and Co. have kindly audited the books of the Commission and we are very grateful for their generous help. A statement of the moneys received and expended from the commencement of our work in 1914 until June 30th, 1916, has been posted to all our subscribers. Will anyone interested please apply for a copy?

THE FOLLOWING LETTER refers to an earlier report sent to the Census Office, Ottawa:—

Census and Statistics Office,  
Ottawa, Canada,  
June 28th, 1916.

I am in receipt of your list of supplies and money received from Canada by the Canadian Field Comforts Association to date of 31st March, and your letter covering the same.

On behalf of the Census Office I wish to thank you heartily for the splendid manner in which you have prepared the statement and the very full account it gives of all the operations of your Commission.

Yours very truly,

E. S. MACPHAIL,  
for Dominion Statistician.

H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE, Duchess of Argyll, on July 12th honoured the Commission with a visit, which was greatly appreciated by all those present. Her Royal Highness inspected the packing-room and office most thoroughly, and expressed herself as very pleased and interested with what she saw.

MANY CANADIANS have come to see us lately, as well as officers from the front or in camp here. Among our recent visitors have been:—

Judge McDonald and Mr. Jackson, Winnipeg; Mrs. Kerr, Chatham; Mrs. Parker, Ottawa; Mrs. Gordon, Winnipeg; Mrs. Warren, St. John; Mrs. H. S. Strathy and Mrs. John I. Davidson, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. W. K. George, Toronto; Sir Ernest and Lady Kilpin, Capetown; Mrs. Dennis, Halifax; Mrs. Taylor and Miss Paton, Liverpool; Dr. and Mrs. Parkin, London; Lady Chamberlain, London; Mrs. Carruthers, Kingston; Mrs. Hume Blake, Toronto; Dr. and Mrs. Meiklejohn, Winnipeg; Mrs. Willie Hope and Miss Hope, Montreal; Mrs. Smart, Montreal; Mrs. Herridge, Ottawa.

Representatives of Canadian societies are always welcome visitors, and we shall be very pleased to show them all that we can.

DURING THE SUMMER a committee of Canadian women provided a very good tea on Saturday afternoons at the Garrison Club Tennis and Cricket Grounds. This has brought in a very nice sum towards our expenses, and a letter from the D.A.A. & Q.M.G., Shorncliffe Command, says that the teas have been very much appreciated by the members of the Club. Mrs. Murray Ross, Mrs. Sandford Smith, Miss Eleanor Bate, Miss Finn, and Miss McMeans were some of the tea committee.

ANY CONTRIBUTIONS to our Xmas Fund will be gladly received and a Xmas appeal has been sent to all our contributors. We shall need \$10,000 in order to provide a small gift for every Canadian at the front, so please help us if you can. Only a general distribution will ensure that no one is overlooked.

The tying together of chocolate, cigarettes, handkerchiefs and cards is now keeping us busy at the Cheriton Stores and also in Hythe, where the Congregational Church has kindly lent a room for this work.

IN REPLY to various enquiries we are glad to state that through the courtesy of H.M. Customs and Excise we have been a bonded warehouse for the receipt of dutiable goods ever since coming to Shorncliffe and can clear Customs for supplies sent to us by post or by rail, whether for general distribution or to forward to Canadian units.

A PARCEL received in July last was addressed:—

“ To my dearest Teddy from your loving wife, Nellie.

“ P.S.—If you don't get this cake write and let me know.”

We much regretted that we were unable to forward it.

#### IN SENDING SUPPLIES:—

1. It would simplify unpacking and save much time if everyone would tie up prs. socks, shirts, mufflers, sweaters, towels, handkerchiefs, prs. gloves, etc., in sixes, carefully counted, and send any odd numbers loose.

2. Socks and gloves should be stitched in pairs or pinned together with safety-pins.

3. Chocolate put into socks almost always becomes broken, and it is better to send it separately.

4. It is best to put lists of contents inside parcels. Parcels or boxes with lists of delectable things, like tobacco or chocolate, on outside wrappings are liable to be broken into and pilfered.

5. If parcels are sent for prisoners of war they must not weigh over 11 lbs. The wrapping should be heavy double paper, not cotton or any textile material. There must be a list of contents attached.

MAGAZINES and small books are most welcome supplies. Every day brings requests for literature from the front, and it means a great deal to the men to have something to read when they have a little leisure. Sunday and fashion papers are not of any use, but monthly and weekly fiction or literary magazines give much pleasure. It is so easy to collect a boxful from friends and send it on to the Commission. If a few girls or boys in every town did this we should soon have a stock on hand to send off at once when requests come in. We have received some splendid boxes. The advertisements were removed from the magazines and

they had been re-covered with stiff paper or cotton. This reduces the weight considerably and makes the magazines more convenient to handle. Wouldn't this be interesting and suitable work for schools?

A KNITTING MACHINE, the gift of the Dew Drop Inn, is now in use at the Cheriton Stores. It is a flat one, especially for knitting sleeveless sweaters, which we understand are preferred to mufflers. Miss Helen Ross is in charge of it, and we expect she will shortly turn out quite a large number of these useful articles. We hope also that many of our workers will hand-knit these sweaters for us, and we give very simple directions below.

#### SLEEVELESS SWEATER.

2 bone needles No. 5. 10-12 ozs. Alloa yarn, 3 or 4 ply dark-grey or khaki.

Cast on 72 stitches. Knit 26 rows—2 plain and 2 purl.

Knit 16 inches plain.

For shoulder knit 26 stitches, cast off 20 stitches, knit remaining 26 stitches.

Knit 10 ribs (20 rows). Knit the other shoulder the same.

For back join the two shoulders by recasting 20 stitches in the middle, then knit 19 inches plain, then 26 rows 2 plain-2 purl, same as front. Stitch up sides, leaving large armholes.

### ANONYMOUS SUPPLIES RECEIVED, JUNE 1—SEPTEMBER 20, 1916.

(Not acknowledged, as no indication from where sent.)

June 1st, 50 Gift parcels for 27th Battn.

„ 30th, 3 cakes, sweets, peanuts, gum, etc.

July 25th, 110 magazines, 17 books, 6 cards.

„ „ 180 Evening Posts.

„ 26th, 92 socks, soap, pads, envelopes, razors, etc.

„ 27th, 20 lbs. chocolate.

Sept. 1st, 111 socks, 40 shirts.

„ 15th, 8 socks, 6 pkgs. tobacco and 9 other articles.

„ 21st, 23 shirts, 5 gauze vests.

Total number of boxes:—9.

NOTE.—If our readers can identify any of these anonymous boxes we shall be very glad to know senders' names and addresses.

## PERSONAL PARCELS OR BOXES RECEIVED AND FORWARDED AS ADDRESSED.

(These could not be acknowledged as senders' names were not given.)  
Boxes addressed to Canadian Field Comforts Commission containing

Personal Parcels only:

June, 1916 .....	2
July, ,, .....	29
Sept., ,, .....	2

Total ... 6

Boxes addressed to Individuals:

June, 1916 .....	24
July, ,, .....	29
Aug., ,, .....	9
Sept., ,, .....	10

Total ... 72

NOTE.—This list does not include personal parcels or boxes which we have been able to identify.

## SUPPLIES RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION.

The following supplies have been received for distribution between June 1st and Sept. 30th, 1916:—

38,509 prs. socks.	
3,825 shirts.	
844 belts, caps, gloves and scarves	
70,295 handkerchiefs.	
5,344 towels.	
3,129 various clothing.	
71,628 hospital supplies.	
36,424 tins or packages cigarettes or tobacco.	
2,115 tins cocoa.	
5,246 packages or tins sweets.	
25,438 various foods.	
776 packages toilet paper.	
11,952 cakes soap.	
12,150 packs cards.	
2,164 various games.	
6,975 magazines.	
41,755 miscellaneous:—pipes, mouth-organs, house-	
wives, notepaper, pencils, candles, cookers, etc.	
159,923 supplies in stock, June 1st.	

Total, 498,490



345,911 articles have been distributed and the remainder are kept in stock for winter use.

In addition 3,303 cases or parcels have been forwarded as addressed to Canadian units or individuals in France and 581 cases or parcels as addressed to various units in camp in England. We have also forwarded 47 parcels sent in our care to prisoners of war.

Total, 3,931.

We should be very grateful for any contributions to enable us to fill special requests and to meet the regular expenditure for such things as canvas, waterproof paper, string, or for labels, index-cards and other office stationery. Paper and string have gone up very much in price and the cost of packing every bale is now well over a shilling. Many supplies have to be purchased here wholesale and money is urgently needed for these and for special requests from the front. Lately we have been asked especially for books, magazines, gramophones and records, footballs and trench cookers.

## THE CANADIAN FIELD COMFORTS COMMISSION AUXILIARY.

The C.F.C.C. Auxiliary was formed to help in the work of the Canadian Field Comforts Commission.

The first meeting was held at Moore Barracks on July 12th, when Miss Plummer was asked to take the chair. Miss Bradda L. Ogden was elected Secretary. At a later meeting Miss Ogden was made Sec-Treasurer.

All who are actively interested in the work of the Commission or who have at some time given their services are asked to become members of the Auxiliary. There are now fifty-four names on the roll.

Meetings are held fortnightly. Mrs. Green, Mrs. Plummer, Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Arnoldi have in turn invited the Auxiliary to meet at their houses.

The Members badge is a miniature of the Commission badge surrounded by scroll with the word Auxiliary. Members if they wish may wear the C.F.C.C. uniform without rank badges.

The C.F.C.C. Auxiliary is affiliated under the Director General of Voluntary Organizations and is therefore entitled to all the privileges of War Office recognition and to make full use of the words "Approved by the War Office"; this also enables members who fulfil the required conditions to obtain the Voluntary Workers' badge issued by the War Office to those engaged in War Work. At the request of the D.G.V.O. the Auxiliary is also registered as a war charity, and will in every way comply with the act.

The Committee of the Dew Drop Inn became affiliated with the C.F.C.C. Auxiliary in August and generously devote half of their profits to the work of the Commission.

The Auxiliary were asked to provide tea at the Gymkhana held by the Canadian Cavalry Depot at Radnor Park, Folkestone, on July 29th, the profits to be given to the Field Comforts Fund. Mrs. Mallory was at the head of the tea committee assisted by Mrs. Ross, and Mrs. Green, Miss Ross, Mrs. Embury and Mrs. Dulmage had charge of four marquees where tea was provided for 1000 people. After all expenses were paid there was a profit of £56.

On Sept. 2nd the Auxiliary provided 600 teas at the Sports of the Canadian Engineers Training Depot which were held at the Folkestone Cricket Ground. Mrs. Macpherson and Miss Ogden were in charge and Miss Ross, Mrs. Hayter Reid, and Mrs. Hughes with Mrs. Bell had the pavilion and two marquees for tea. The net profit was £46.11.5.

On Sept. 16th the Auxiliary provided 600 teas at the Sports of the Reserve Artillery Brigade on Sir John Moore Plain, Shorncliffe. Mrs. Baker and Miss Ogden were in charge and Mrs. Green, Mrs. Ross and Miss Ross had the three marquees. The net profit was £30.1.5.

Mrs. Cowan had the ginger ale and lemonade stall at all three teas, and other members of the Auxiliary helped in selling programmes or serving teas.

Much of the success of these teas was due to the generous help of the officers arranging the sports. The Auxiliary wish to acknowledge their kindness with many thanks.

B. L. OGDEN.

Secretary-Treasurer.

## CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL RECOGNITION GRANTED BY THE WAR OFFICE TO VOL- UNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the Canadian Field Comforts Commission Auxiliary is an Association for the administration of all Voluntary Work within the limits set out in the Central Registry, London, and is entitled from this date to all the privileges of Official recognition, and may make full use of the words "Approved by the War Office," in connection with its work.

By order of the Army Council,

E. W. WARD.

Director-General of Voluntary Organisations.

Scotland House,  
New Scotland Yard, S.W.  
28th July, 1916.

G.D.6477 1500 10/15 HWV (P).

## THE DEW DROP INN.

On April 1st a patriotic tea room known as the Dew Drop Inn was opened on Bouverie Road in Folkestone, the purpose being to raise funds for providing comforts for the wounded in the hospitals in this area and for Canadians at the front.

The Committee in charge were the President, Mrs. Malcolm McAvity, the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. C. F. Ritchie, Mrs. F. Mallory, Mrs. C. B. Price, Mrs. Sharman, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. McPhedran, but owing to the resignation of Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. McPhedran, we elected Mrs. Schmidlin in their place.

The question of becoming affiliated with the C.C.F.C. was brought up by Mrs. Mallory at a Meeting held in August and was agreed upon by the Committee; also that 50% of our profits be given to them each month.

The patronage of the Dew Drop Inn has increased to such an extent that we have found it necessary to move to two larger bright rooms over Messrs. Heron at 12, Sandgate Road; they are now being re-decorated and we hope to be able to open them during October.

Up to date our donations have been £184.0.0 and we hope to increase our business during the winter months.

FRANCES RITCHIE.

Secretary Treasurer.

## VOLUNTARY WORKERS WHO HAVE OBTAINED BADGES.

\*Mrs. O. A. Critchley

\*Miss M. I. Finn

\*Miss M. R. Gordon

\*Miss S. E. Spencer

Miss E. M. Currie

Mrs. Gordon Thomson

Mrs. O. C. Macpherson

Mrs. H. D. L. Gordon

Mrs. Fred Mallory

Mrs. Malcolm McAvity

Mrs. Fred Ritchie

Mrs. C. H. L. Sharman

Mrs. Edward Schmidlin

Miss Maude Codville

Mrs. F. F. Archbald.

\*Badge was returned on receiving Commission.

## THE VOLUNTARY WORKERS BADGE.

### For Field Comforts Workers in Canada.

It is not proposed to form a new organisation for work in Canada but the Canadian membership of the C.F.C.C. Auxiliary is designed to afford the privilege of the Voluntary Workers Badge to all workers for the Commission in Canada who fulfil the War Office conditions by Field Comforts work at home or with any Society or Committee. When this badge is issued the recipient is required to sign an acknowledgment which includes an undertaking to return it on ceasing to perform regular work.

The work considered must be voluntary Field Comforts work, that is, work in connection with money or supplies to be sent through the Commission to the men in the field. Anyone qualifying for this badge becomes automatically a member of the Auxiliary and is also entitled to the Auxiliary Badge which need not be given up on ceasing to work.

MEMBERS qualifying through their Society for the Voluntary Workers badge must work twelve hours a week for a period of three months before applying and nine hours a week after obtaining badge in order to hold it. Applications must be made in writing to the Secretary of the C.F.C.C. Auxiliary, care of this office, and must have a certificate attached from the applicant's Society stating that she has done the requisite amount of work, and guaranteeing return of badge if work ceases.

HOME WORKERS qualifying for the Voluntary Workers badge must send full names and addresses immediately to the Secretary of the C.F.C.C. Auxiliary and in order to obtain badge must during a period of three months make and forward to the Commission for general distribution as Field Comforts 50 of any of the following articles:—Prs. socks, service shirts, prs. gloves or half-gloves, sleeveless sweaters, towels, housewives or gauze underwear. Home workers must make and forward 6 articles a month in order to hold badge. Applications must have certificate attached from a responsible person stating articles to be applicant's own work and guaranteeing return of badge if work ceases. Articles may be forwarded direct or through any organization provided maker's name is in parcel.

The interruption of work of badge-holders through illness or necessary absence may be dealt with by the Society or guarantor responsible. The guiding principle is regular and voluntary work for the Field Comforts Commission.

## A REQUEST.

If you want to send a parcel,  
Please enclose a little soap,  
A toilet cake, a shaving stick,  
And a bar to wash our clothes.  
We're looking now for lots of things  
To you, so never fear;  
Whate'er you send, my dearest friend,  
It brings us health and cheer.

Please send us lots of candies.  
Yes, chocolate by the score.  
Enclose them in a tight tin box  
And not as done before.  
For pasteboard boxes are a farce,  
They get so much abuse  
In going through so many hands,  
We, our little dainties lose.

So, please, just mind, that we are but men,  
And often think of home;  
Yes, when this wretched war is o'er,  
You'll find we shall not roam.  
For bully beef and whangs of cheese  
With biscuits hard for bread,  
With shell and bullets whizzing round,  
We are now fully fed.

'Tis true we need a lot of things,  
We know you'll do your best,  
So fill the box up to the top,  
And leave to us the rest.  
We'll do our best with what you send,  
To spread the cheer around,  
So fill the box from end to end,  
And make our cheer abound.

J. W. C.

## LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

11-6-16.

Major —— (on behalf of men) wishes to extend very grateful thanks for parcel received some days ago. Lots were drawn for all there present close up to front line providing a welcome diversion from routine.

It is hoped the donors realize what a kindness they are doing.

“D” Coy.,  
1st Canadian Pioneers.

Flanders,  
11-6-16.

Many thanks for the footballs which arrived O.K. to-day. They are a Godsend as the men need a little relaxation after the strenuous times they have been through recently.

The Baseball things you sent have been a source of many happy hours for us all. To-day the Officers played the men and gave them a severe beating.

———, Major,  
5th Can. Battn.

Headquarters,  
14th Canadian Battalion,  
Royal Montreal Regiment,  
June 26th, 1916.

I was agreeably surprised this morning to receive the Tommy's Cookers together with refills, also the box containing socks, and packages you so kindly forwarded.

I divided the Cookers amongst the men in the Companies and Details and also distributed the socks. The men appreciate these Cookers immensely and find them very useful and convenient. In fact they are a luxury especially in the trenches as no fires are allowed owing to the danger of the smoke being observed by the enemy.

I need not say that the excellent socks you sent are a great comfort and beneficial to the health of the men, which is so important here.

The packages were given to the respective addressees.

Thanking you for the great interest you take in our welfare,

———, Adjutant.

26th June, 1916.

Your letter of the 7 instant is before me, also (I.) Box, No. 7914, containing addressed parcels has reached us safely; on behalf of the recipients, I wish to express their thanks, not only for the thought which prompted the forwardance of the parcels, but also for the promptitude with which they have been handled by the organization which you represent.

Assuring you of our appreciation of what is being done towards our comfort and again thanking you, believe me,

\_\_\_\_\_, Lt.,  
Adj. Divisional Train,  
2nd Canadian Div.,  
for O.C. Div. Train.

22nd (French Canadian) Battalion,  
June 29th, 1916.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed of the 3rd and 14th June. One case containing 714 oranges and one box containing 50 lbs. dried fruits mentioned in these letters have been duly received and the contents distributed amongst our men, who very much appreciated these gifts.

Please receive our best thanks for all your kindness.

\_\_\_\_\_, Lieut.,  
22nd (French Canadian) Battalion.

June 30, 1916,  
Somewhere-in-Belgium.

I wish to thank you for the parcel received a few days ago. I appreciate the efforts which you went to to trace the one my Mother sent. It makes me glad to know that we have such an energetic Commission to look after us the way you do. The contents of the parcel were all that could be desired.

Again thanking you for your courtesy in the matter,

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_,  
20th Battery C.F.A.,  
5th Art. Brigade,  
France.

3-7-16.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of Crate No. 8551 containing reading material for the men of this Battery.

This is a most welcome gift especially during the hours between actions.

Thanking you again for your efforts on our behalf,

\_\_\_\_\_, Major,  
O.C. 28th Battery C.E.F.

Belgium,  
July 4th.

I trust you will not estimate the extent or sincerity of our gratitude for the gifts of the C.F.C. Commission by this niggardly piece of paper. I assure you on behalf of those whom your kindness enriched that they are very grateful. If I were to mention one thing as especially valuable and desirable to the men it would be the shirts. By reason of "the pestilence" that walketh in darkness" a clean new shirt is treasure trove. I have asked the men who received the socks to thank the donors whose names were found enclosed.

All the men in the Field are under a great debt of gratitude to the Field Comfort Com. and all those whose untiring labors do so much for our comfort and welfare.

With renewed thanks,

\_\_\_\_\_,  
(Hon. Capt. and Chaplain 42nd Bn.).

2nd Canadian D.A.C.,  
9th July 1916.

Allow me to acknowledge with thanks your second consignment of socks. We are putting these to the very best possible use.

The soiled socks we are turning over to the baths in our Division, where they are washed and issued again to the men. The amount you have sent has supplied amply the need. When the fighting is fiercest or the weather at its worst the demand for these is greatest.

Again thanking you for your help,

\_\_\_\_\_, Capt.

Best thanks fair maid to you I send;  
For comforts we received from thee;  
The socks we've vowed we ne'er will mend;  
Until the day the world is free.

E'en tho a toe or heel maybe  
Peep through in places that are worn;  
'Twill only steel our hearts that we  
Fail not to keep the vow we've sworn.

2nd Battalion Bombers.



Headquarters,  
1st Can. Art. Bde.,  
1st Can. Div.,  
B.E.F., 12.8.16.

I have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of Box No. 9191 containing various comforts.

These gifts which were distributed between men of the 3rd and 4th Batteries were very gratefully received and much appreciated. Some of the socks which came from Belleville went to men from that place.

The literature was very welcome and very readily disposed of as we all like something to read. The light vests came very opportunely as the weather has been and is so hot.

Last, but by no means least, we are very grateful for the (500) cigarettes so kindly sent by the Vacation War Relief Committee of New York City. If you have the means of doing so we should be glad if you could kindly let the donors know of our appreciation.

With many thanks to you and all concerned,

\_\_\_\_\_, Capt.,  
Chaplain 1st Bde., C.F.A.

Your splendid gift of bale No. 8817 of various home comforts for the men of "A" Company, 18th Canadian Battalion, arrived yesterday and the contents were equally distributed amongst them.

For the boys of my Company I want to thank you very much for the useful articles presented to them.

I can say that the officers, N.C.O's. and men are delighted with your gifts and appreciate the kindness and thoughtfulness of you and the other members of the Canadian Field Comforts Commission.

\_\_\_\_\_, Capt.,  
O.C. "A" Company.

Belgium,  
July 16/16.

1st Canadian Infantry Brigade

July 21, 1916.

The Commanding Officer of our First Battalion to whom I gave the accordion received from your Commission yesterday, has asked me to express his great appreciation of your kindness. The instrument, which is a very fine one, will be put in the Transport for safe keeping when the Battalion is in the front line, and at other times will be given to some man who can play it well and provide amusement for the Battalion on its own grounds in rest billets or at Y.M.C.A. concerts, etc. This arrangement will give everyone the benefit of it, and the instrument will belong to the whole unit, the man in charge of it being responsible for keeping it safely.

You may be sure that the men will get a great deal of enjoyment as a result of your kindness for which I beg to add my own sincere thanks.

\_\_\_\_\_, Captain.

Belgium,  
July 22/16.

I received your shipment of dried fruit of June 7th. and comforts of June 30th. in good shape.

Please accept my thanks and the full appreciation of the men of my company. Your branch of the Service is one that we couldn't well do without, out here.

\_\_\_\_\_ Capt.  
10th. Canadians.

2nd. Can. Bn.  
France,  
24/7/16.

Received yours stating that the 150 prs. socks were forwarded and last night I received them here in the trenches so today I distributed them to the men of my company which were needing them very badly. There were exactly enough to give each man I have in the trenches one pair each. I thank you most sincerely for having them sent and the quick action you took in the matter. It is only those who are over here who fully realize the nature of the Field Comforts Commission and the great work it is doing for the soldiers.

\_\_\_\_\_ Maj.

25/7/16.

I beg to acknowledge the gift of a bale of various comforts for the men of my Company. These were very much appreciated and the Canadian Field Comforts Commission certainly does a great deal of good to the soldier in the Field.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lt.  
for O.C. "C" Coy  
24th. Cdns.

28/7/16.

The box, No. 896, you forwarded to me on 15/7/16 has reached me safely and has been very much appreciated.

The cigarettes, tobacco, towels, etc. are most welcome and I can say this regular box of comforts is very much looked forward to.

(sgd) \_\_\_\_\_ Capt. C.A.M.C.  
M.O. 7th. Battn.

35th. Battalion,  
West Sandling.

August 3rd. 1916.

Allow me to heartily thank you for the excellent box of reading matter and games which you were good enough to send me and which reached me safely a few minutes ago. This will go a long way towards ameliorating the unpleasant conditions under which men in quarantine have to live.

————— Chaplain

August 6th. 1916.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of twenty "Tommy's cookers" kindly sent to us by the Canadian Field Comforts Commission.

Since receiving these this unit has done a tour in the trenches and with the help of the cookers our men were able to cook in positions which previously was impossible—thus adding much to their comfort.

Thanking you on behalf of the company.

————— Lieut.  
3rd. Can. M. G. Coy.

July 20/16.

Many thanks to Canadian Field Comforts for the six excellent gramophone records, they have given us any amount of pleasure.

Poor old R——— (our band) got his blighty the other day. Luckily it was a fairly slight wound, and I don't think will disable him permanently. His only complaint was that he "didn't want to leave the boys."

For the Salient—things have been fairly quiet the last few days though that's a very comparative term for rarely a day passes that some action of some sort gets going.

With regards from the 11th. Battery,

Headquarters,  
3rd. Canadian Divisional Art.  
12th August, 1916.

I am in receipt of your letter and parcel of the 7th instant and wish to thank you very much for remembering the Boys.

We have 50 men on the Headquarters Staff and quite a number amused themselves last evening playing Draughts.

The books and cards were also highly appreciated.

Hoping you will get ample support in the good work you are doing.

————— Captain.  
Staff Captain 3rd Canadian Divn. Arty.

Belgium, Aug. 12.16.

I wish to thank you for the splendid box (9190) of field comforts which arrived yesterday. I will see to its distribution immediately and I know from past experience that they will be much appreciated. It is a splendid thing for us to have these for distribution at times. There are times when the boys may have plenty but more often when they need something. A chaplain likes to be able to meet the need.

Should you at any time have a gramophone that you were puzzled to know what to do with I would like to be remembered. I could make use of it very often. I stay frequently at advanced line posts and although some have gramophones others have not and it makes things go a bit livelier to have music. There are always lots of those back behind the lines but they are great service right up at the front.

Again thanking you for sending such a splendid box,

Capt. Rev. \_\_\_\_\_  
4th. Canadian Infantry Brigade,  
France.

HEADQUARTERS,

The Royal Canadian Regiment,  
15th. August, 1916.

The Bales, No. 9311 and No. 9312 which you notified me of as having been forwarded on the 31st. July, have now been received.

Will you kindly express our thanks to the donors, Princess Louise Chapter, I.O.D.E. Halifax.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lieut.  
for Lieut-Colönel  
Comdg. Royal Canadian Regiment.

Aug. 18. 1916.

I thank you most grateful for your welcome parcel which I received today and the contents were excellent and they just came in handy as things were kind of scarce here at present and am so sorry that I did not acknowledge your last parcel which I received about a month ago as you will have to forgive me but we are having a splendid time at present but things are hard to get but we are not far from you at present only about forty miles that is all so you can tell us old boys well deserve a rest after our long period in the trenches course I have not much to publish about it but I have been wounded and been in blighty for eight months but have still had a years experience out here so I have not done bad but there is one thing our boys are still keeping the old flag up yes who wouldn't when there are such good people as you in the old land working hard getting comforts for the boys. Well

Friend I guess you may think I am giving quite a line on I should say a long letter for me I have never seen well I have never spoke to you but while I was in Moore Barracks hospital I saw you working hard checking up the goods. So I will ring off now. Wishing you and all your committee the best of good wishes as it leaves me in the best of health,

Pte. \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

P.S. Would you mind if you came across a mouth organ could you send me one as they are quite scarce here. Hoping to hear from you soon. \_\_\_\_\_

Belgium,  
Aug. 21st. 1916.

On behalf of our men I wish to thank you for Box 9343 containing tobacco, the gift of the Toronto News. It has been given out to the men and has been much appreciated. Smoking is one of the few pleasures we have over here and it is indulged in by all alike.

Your Commission has been very good to us and has done a great deal to make things more comfortable here and we are selfish enough to hope that the good work will continue.

\_\_\_\_\_, Capt.,  
Chaplain 4th Bde., C.F.A.

No. \_\_\_\_\_, No. 2 Coy.,  
1st Batt. Grenadier Gds.,  
Guards Division,  
France, 22/8/16.

Thanks very much for parcel you sent me. I think it is the most useful parcel I have ever had. I often get amongst lots of your boys and have some real good times with them. Well I must close now, again thanking you for your kindness,

\_\_\_\_\_, Pte.

Bevan Military Hospital,  
Sandgate,  
August 22nd, 1916.

We have just received a consignment of jam for which we are most grateful. It will be very much appreciated by the men as we had no jam of any kind left in the Hospital when it came.

We feel it is most kind of you to remember us and we also feel we should like the kind friends in Canada to know how very much their gifts are enjoyed.

Again thanking you,

\_\_\_\_\_, (Sister),  
Commandant.

Headquarters,  
2nd. Canadian Division,  
B.E.F., France,  
August 23rd. 1916.

Having distributed the liberal supply of socks and cigarettes which you so thoughtfully sent to me, I wish to express our warm appreciation—especially to the donor of the cigarettes. These were so superior to brands obtainable here that applicants for them simply besieged my office. The generous quantity sent enabled me to gratify a very large number and now "Milo cigarettes" have a host of new admirers.

The socks were distributed by me to convalescents who are expecting to go to the trenches shortly and to my Police and Traffic Controls who have to be on duty at all hours and in all sorts of weather.

To say that the men are sincerely grateful hardly expresses their heartfelt thankfulness.

———— Major,  
Asst. Provost Marshal,  
2nd. Div: C.E.F.

On Active Service  
Aug. 25th. 1916.

I wish to thank you on behalf of No. 2 Company P.P.C.L.I. for the bale just received.

The contents were admirably selected and great satisfaction experienced with the socks as we had just come in from a fifteen mile route march.

Yours sincerely,  
————, Capt.  
No. 2 Coy.

5th. Trench Mortar Battery  
2nd. Canadians  
France.

Many thanks for box containing fruit. The contents were thoroughly enjoyed by the men who thoroughly appreciate your kindness. Surprises like these go a long way out here.

Yours faithfully,  
————, Lieut.  
O.C.

France, Sept. 4th/16.

I have to thank you for the box of comforts, mostly socks and cigarettes and underwear, which arrived just as we were commencing a long march. If you could have seen the way the boys crowded round my tent and cleaned out the box of everything,

even the books which one would think they would hardly want to carry on a long march, you would understand a little of how much the boys appreciate what you are doing for them.

Lt Col \_\_\_\_\_, C.O. 15th. Bn. has asked me if you could send a supply of those regimental songs that I have seen in different places. If you can send me two or three hundred I will see that they are used to the best advantage in this battalion, where you have so many friends.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_, Chaplain,

15th Can. Battn.

48th. Highlanders of Canada

B.E.F.

France.

France,

Sept. 6. 16.

Very many thanks for baseball bats and balls, football and socks.

The former came just as we were going into trenches hence long delay in acknowledging them. The socks arrived after we had all been standing in water and mud for three days and were more than welcome, also the letters found in some of them. The football has been used on many occasions and we all feel very grateful to the C.F.C.C.

\_\_\_\_\_, Lieut.,

60th Battn.

“ In the Field ”

Saturday, 9th. Sept. 1916.

Box No. 9706, containing “ Comforts ” came to hand a few days ago, and I am taking this the earliest opportunity of acknowledging receipt of same.

It was indeed a “ Dandy ” and everything was indeed a useful article to a “ Tommy ” out here on “ Active Service. ”

If I might venture, may I ask who was the kind friend who enclosed the parcel for me, or do you want same to be kept secret ?

Well, I am indeed grateful to you all, and I have shared the “ Good things ” with all my soldier chums.

Please accept on behalf of my “ Soldier Chums ” and myself, sincerest and best “ Thank You’s ” and if you will only accept same with as much pleasure and happiness as we “ Boys ” accepted the parcel, you will indeed be real and truly happy and contented to know that the “ Boys ” appreciate such gifts with profound joy.

Being the "Office Boy" I have taking leave of myself and written this letter on a typewriter, but I am sure you will forgive. Again thanking you, I remain,  
A happy and contented "Canadian Boy."

No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
Pte. \_\_\_\_\_,  
5th. Field Amb.,  
2nd. Cdn. Div.  
France.

6th. Cdn. Inf. Bde.  
2nd. Cdn. Div. B.E.F. France  
10-9-16.

The package of Field Comforts kindly sent to my address for distribution amongst the troops, was duly received. I very carefully distributed them to the 27th. Cdn. Bn. today. Please accept my warmest thanks and the thanks of the 27th. Bn. for the splendid bale of articles which arrived at a most opportune time. The boys in the trenches will bless you all for bringing this real comfort to them.

\_\_\_\_\_, Capt.  
Chaplain, 6th. Cdn. Inf. Bde.

3rd. Can. Battn.

Would it be possible for you to send me two hundred pairs of socks at once for this Battn. We have been going through a pretty strenuous time and as it is impossible to get any washing done where we are. These are urgently needed to try and save the men's feet.

Thanking you in anticipation,  
Yours very truly,

\_\_\_\_\_, M.O.  
3rd Battn.

P.S. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Comforts which we received about a week ago which came in a very good time.

Senior Chaplain,  
1st. Canadian Division,  
Sept. 16. 1916.

Thank you very much for the bale of socks for our men. I gave them to some of the 10th. Battalion and they were received most gratefully.

Of course they only went a short way and a lot of men who came went away without them.



It cuts one to the heart that any of these brave young fellows, who are tramping such weary miles through "the valley of the shadow of death" for the sake of Canada should lack socks or any other comforts to ease their burden.

On the whole of course they are wonderfully well looked after and are always cheerful.

I congratulate you and your associates on your good work.

Yours sincerely,

4th C. M. R. Battn.

September 25th. 1916.

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the following articles on August 15th

- 2 Boxes of Raisins
- 2 do of Tobacco
- 1 do of Magazines
- 1 Bale of socks  
and on Sept. 24th
- 2 Bales of socks
- 1 Packet of Comforts

I cannot tell you how much the Officers N. C. Os and men appreciate the above mentioned articles.

When we came out of the trenches after our last success, all were wet, tired, and many suffering from sore feet. A change of socks and the above mentioned comforts I can assure you were more than appreciated.

If you could see the way they are received you would be more than repaid.

-----, Lt. Col. 4th C.M.R. Bt.

In the Field,

France,

26/9/16.

It is with great pleasure that I acknowledge receipt of Bale No. 9804, dispatched by you on 5th Sept.

It arrived at a very opportune time viz. when the men had returned from an extremely, if not the most strenuous tour we have experienced and the contents were doubly welcome.

-----, Capt.,

O.C. "C" Coy. 43rd. Battn.

France, Sept. 26th. 1916.

The box of Field Comforts you so kindly sent me came through safely about ten days ago. It arrived just as we were moving off to go into the front line so we kept it till they came back. When they did come back, tired, wet, muddy and miserable and aching with a sense of the loss of brave officers and comrades, we opened the bale and distributed the things. I do not think any gift could have been more opportune or more appreciated. We are back now for a few days rest and at last I have an opportunity to send you our very grateful thanks which I do most heartily. Yours is a very blessed work and I wish you unceasing success.

-----, Capt. C. F.,  
58th Battn.,  
9th. Bde.,  
3rd. Can. Div.

### A SOLDIER'S PRAYER.

“God give me but the grace to stand  
Patient and strong, with sword in hand,  
To do my share for this dear land—  
Perchance to die.  
No earthly gifts I crave, dear Lord,  
But that I still may bear this sword  
Until the day when, Peace restored,  
I lay it by.”

From the Fifth Glo'ster Gazette.

# THE C.F.C.C. AUXILIARY.

MISS B. L. OGDEN

*Secretary-Treasurer.*

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