

illustration facing page 14). A second division arrived in England early in the summer, and in November a third division was organized. On September 14, a Canadian Corps of two divisions was formed in France with Lieut.-General E. H. Alderson in command. The total number of troops recruited for service in Canada by the end of the year was officially reported as amounting to 212,690. In a New Year's message published on the last day of the year, the Prime Minister stated that the military force contributed by Canada would be increased to half a million of men. Subscriptions to the various war funds were augmented by many millions of dollars.

The support afforded by Australia was equally cordial both in troops and money. At the beginning of November, it was officially stated that 92,000 men from Australia had actually been despatched to the theatre of war. At the same time New Zealand had sent 25,000 men to the front, and the Union of South Africa, besides supplying large contingents of troops for service in South, West, East and Central Africa, had furnished 6,500 men for service in Europe. Newfoundland had supplied 1,600 men for service on land besides sending many men to the navy. The British colonies in the West Indies sent two thousand men, and smaller contingents were furnished by Ceylon and Fiji.

ECONOMIC RESULTS OF THE WAR, 1915.

Early in the year 1915 it became apparent that the German authorities were seriously alarmed by the tightening of the British blockade. The entire control of provisions and all military supplies was taken by the Imperial Government, and decrees were enacted for fixing prices. All stocks of certain metals were reserved for military use. Before the end of the year, it was confessed that the scarcity of food was bearing very heavily upon the poorer classes, for whom only a sufficient supply of grain and potatoes could be provided. This difficult situation had been alleviated to a certain extent by the occupation of Belgium and the great industrial districts of northern France and Poland, with their valuable mines of coal and iron, numerous blast furnaces and textile factories. Every effort was made to turn these to the best account. It was admitted that on several occasions, the German armies had been placed in a critical situation by a shortage of artillery ammunition late in the autumn of 1914, and again in the summer of 1915.

The chief object of the campaign against Serbia was to establish an overland communication with Turkey, and obtain supplies from that source. The importation of raw materials, food stuffs and certain manufactures, and the export of her own industrial products, had become vital conditions of the economic life of Germany. Consequently, the sinister effects of the blockade were felt more and more daily as the war continued. In Austria-Hungary, a general seizure of all grain and flour was decreed on February 26, and a system of per capita distribution inaugurated in the large cities next month. The prices of food rose enormously, and in the autumn entailed great suffering upon the working classes.