

## PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR 1915.

the authorized forces of Canada would be increased to 500,000, this announcement being made "in token of Canada's unflinching resolve to crown the justice of our cause with victory and an abiding peace." Legal authority for the increase of the Canadian troops to 500,000 was conferred by Order-in-Council of January 12, 1916. Owing to the character of the fighting the losses amongst Canadian troops in the field have necessarily been severe. Up to November 30, 1915, these casualties totalled 539 officers and 13,017 of other ranks; they included 107 officers and 1,855 other ranks killed in action; 30 officers, 786 other ranks died of wounds; 6 officers, 164 other ranks died of diseases; 339 officers, 7,951 other ranks wounded; 37 officers, 1,267 other ranks prisoners of war; 20 officers, 994 other ranks reported missing<sup>1</sup>.

**Canadian Contributions for Patriotic Purposes.**—The unflinching valour and splendid heroism of the Canadian troops in the field have been a source of keen gratification and pride to the people of the Dominion, who in numerous ways have striven to sustain the national and imperial cause for which the war is being waged on the battlefields of Europe. The women of Canada have shown noble devotion and enthusiasm in the raising of funds, the provision of comforts and the institution of various associations for the assistance of soldiers and their dependents. High tributes have been paid to the efficiency of the Canadian hospitals and the skill and devotion of the medical officers and nurses. An inquiry instituted by the Census and Statistics Office under special instructions from the Dominion Government showed that up to March 31, 1916, the total value of the Canadian contributions actually paid amounted to \$27,881,165, as follows:

Fund.	Value of contributions paid.
	\$
Canadian Patriotic .....	9,554,981
Donations of Dominion and Provincial Governments to Imperial Government .....	4,695,851
Canadian Red Cross .....	3,593,924
British Red Cross .....	1,884,033
Contributions for Machine Guns and to Military Units .....	1,923,245
Belgian Relief .....	1,469,529
Jewish Relief .....	103,129
Hospitals (various) .....	536,704
Miscellaneous .....	4,119,769
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>27,881,165</b>

The various Funds included in the foregoing statement number altogether 33, as follows: Canadian Patriotic; Donations of Dominion and Provincial Governments; Canadian Red Cross; British Red Cross; Contributions for machine guns, field kitchens, field ambulances, etc.; Belgian Relief; Jewish Relief; Serbian Relief; Secours National; Comité

<sup>1</sup>These figures are from "Canada in Flanders," by Sir Max Aitken, M.P., being Vol. I of the Official Story of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.