

Support Solicited For Russian Relief

An appeal to persons of moderate means to send in what help they can to the Canadian Aid to Russia Fund—and to make their donation at the earliest possible opportunity was made recently by Mr. Justice L.P.D. Carey, chairman of the fund campaign in New Brunswick.

"Up to the present time," said the chairman, "the response from business firms and from citizens who are in a position to give sizeable contributions to the fund has been distinctly encouraging and their assistance is greatly appreciated."

"But the campaign committee would like to see a much greater interest shown by those of our people who are able to contribute lesser aid, even though it be just a dollar or so. A flood of donations of this kind would demonstrate beyond any question of doubt the widespread warmth of sympathy which the citizens of New Brunswick feel for the afflicted civilians of Russia, to whose unending courage all of us are indebted so deeply."

The chairman urged prospective contributors not to hesitate in sending their donation to their local campaign treasurer at once, for the urgency of the appeal is heightened by the severity of winter conditions in Russia.

"This is entirely a voluntary contribution campaign," the chairman pointed out. "Please do not wait and expect to be called upon by a canvasser; give your donation now and give as much as you can. The donation may be made anonymously if the contributor does not wish his name published. Let us strive to achieve, in this province, a showing that will be worthy of the people of New Brunswick—a total contribution that will do the maximum amount of good among the brave people who are hungry, cold or ill in Russia today. Let us send them a substantial shipment of relief supplies as a New Year's gift of appreciation from the citizens of New Brunswick." The provincial chairman asked that the clergymen of New Brunswick co-operate with the appeal by making reference to it from their pulpits.

The nation-wide objective of the campaign is at least a million dollars by the start of the New Year, and to date the contributions in this province have passed the \$11,000 mark.

Clothing, food, medicines, surgical needs, stoves and seeds are among the requirements which the fund is buying in Canada to ship to Russia on the supply vessels regularly leaving North America ports for that country.

It may be startling to Canadians to imagine themselves transplanted into the circumstances faced by the civilians of Russia today. For example, not one in 100 Russians civilian has been able to buy any new clothing in the last year. Hundreds of thousands are still wearing summer sandals or home-made boots—and this is December! Few have rubbers or overshoes. Most of them put newspapers under their worn coats and between their scanty blankets.

The lack of fresh vegetables and milk has undermined the health of millions of aged people and children, and despite the sturdy physical constitution of the Russian people there are now many scattered epidemics of flu. In the last year, doctors say, the average Russian civilian has lost at least 15 pounds. Unofficial sources say that between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 persons in the besieged Leningrad area, alone, succumbed to slow starvation during the year.

Russia cannot do very much for her gallant civilians, for her production is nearly 100 percent devoted to essential war production. The Canadian Aid to Russia Fund is ready to send immediate, welcome assistance, if the citizens give it their whole-hearted support.

Christmas Customs Differ

CONTRASTING RITES HAVE A COMMON BACKGROUND

Strange as it may seem, in many parts of Europe Santa Claus does not bring gifts to the children nor do they always receive them on Christmas Day.

According to legend in Spain, it is the Three Wise Men who bring presents to the children. On the Eve of Epiphany (also called Little Christmas) the shoes of the children are put on the balconies and windows, and the following morning they find their gifts, awaiting them.

Christmas in France is a day just for the children; they receive their gifts then, but their elders celebrate New Year's Day, the first of January, by the exchange of presents.

Russia had a very strange sup-

erstitious, Santa Claus appearing as a devil with horns and a tail. He switches the children with twigs if they have not been on their best behaviour, and leaves behind him a small picture for each, one of himself and the other devils, as a gift.

Early in December, when the holiday season begins in Hungary, the children receive a visit from St. Nicholas (or Santa Claus) who brings them candy. They are very good after his visit and begin writing letters asking the angels for the presents they want, as the children believe their Christmas gifts are from the Holy Child, brought to them by the angels.

The children of Norway believe that it is the Christmas Gnome which brings them gifts at Christmas. An old legend has it that these gnomes make their homes underground, and that they will bring bad luck to anyone who is unkind to them. In the barns, a bowl of porridge with a butter "eye" in the middle of it is left by the children for the gnomes as a Christmas present.

Old women in Syria, on the Eve of Epiphany, Twelfth Night, have the superstition that if they have great faith their stores will be increased, so they descend to their cellars and shake their jars of oil and wine.

Bohemian girls believe that on Christmas Eve they put a bowl of water outdoors to freeze, a pattern on the ice will reveal the occupation of their husbands to be.

In the Netherlands, the superstition is that whatever is planted on Christmas Eve will not die, even if the seed is planted when there is snow on the ground.

One custom, very popular now, is the Christmas Tree. According to tradition, it had its origin in Germany as early as 1695. Egypt, so another tradition tell us, also has claim to that distinction, long before the Christmas era. The belief is that the palm tree, every month bears a branch. A spray of this tree, having twelve shoots on it is used in Egypt at the time of the winter solstice.

It was not until 1840, however, that the Christmas Tree came into general use, although we hear of it first in England about 1729. The story is that on Christmas Eve the apple tree produces fruit and only a few generations ago apples were fastened to the Christmas Tree. Even in our day, among the ornaments hanging on the tree are apples made of glass.

Some interesting legends tell us that the use of holly originates from pagan days, also that witches holly. At one time, a mischievous goblin is supposed to have paid a visit to a maiden who had not decorated her bed with holly. An older legend has it that holly is symbolic of the Crown of Thorns worn by Christ, because of blood-red berries and thorns.

The mistletoe dates from the time of the Druids who believed that the plant had miraculous powers because of its immortality. It received from them the name of "All Heal," and it was dedicated to the Scandinavian Goddess of Love, Friga. Probably from this comes the custom of kissing under the mistletoe; sometimes a branch of holly is used.

Call Up Married Men To Start In January

Married men between the ages of 19 and 25 have been made subject to call for compulsory military service it was announced officially recently by the Labor Department, which now administers the call-up machinery through National Selective Service, moved to clean up all single men in the age classes previously subject to call who have not received call-up notices or who having received them, have failed to report.

These men now are notified by proclamation to report by filling out special forms which will be available shortly in all Post Offices. The men affected by this proclamation are single men and childless widowers between the ages of 19 and 40.

Notices have not yet started going out to married men in the 19 to 25 age classes but it is expected they will start moving in January.

As all men married since July 15, 1940, have been hitherto classed as single men for purposes of the call-up, it is not believed a large number of married men will be affected by the new decision.

Only those who now are between 19 and 25 and who were married before they were 23 years of age will become liable to call and the number of these is not believed to be large.

The two decisions announced today mark the first change in the call-up arrangements since they were transferred from war services to the Labor Department December 1.

The regulations as they stood at the time of the transfer made subject to call, by proclamation, all single men and widowers without children as of July 15, 1940, are between 19 and 35 years of age. To date, proclamations have extended the callable ages to 40.

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No Outdoor Lights This Christmas

A special reminder was given in Fredericton recently at New Brunswick Civilian Defence Headquarters that it is forbidden to have lighted Christmas trees outdoors. Dr. J. Miles Gibson, provincial Air Raid Precautions Officer, warned today that outside lighting cannot be permitted except under special circumstances.

Lighted evergreens or strings of lights in the windows of houses are allowed, however, provided they are controlled, with somebody being home to extinguish them in case of a blackout. The regulations governing controlled lighting pertain there it was pointed out.

Dr. Gibson particularly referred to Christmas trees placed on lawns and verandahs and illuminated with colored bulbs in stressing necessity of observing A. R. P. lighting rules, in the best interests of civilian security it has been deemed advisable to forbid such Yuletide decorations this year, he said. This ruling will apply throughout the province, said the chief A. R. P. O.

At the same time he continued once more against the house, barn and shed lighting throughout New Brunswick's countryside areas. Lights of any description must not be allowed to show so as to be visible at a distance greater than 300 feet, if in a district beyond the air raid warning signal.

In view of the high risk and recent heavy losses elsewhere, Dr. Gibson also warned against the danger of Christmas decorations catching fire. He said householders should be "doubly particular" to make sure that tree and house trimmings are not ignited.

A Vision In Brass

You never saw a man so out of place in a machine shop. He was old, but he had young blue eyes that kept a schoolboy look in them. Yet he must have lived long enough to have seen all the cruelty and waste of life.

For some strange reason mechanics stopped working when he came near. Not that old Joseph ever showed the slightest disapproval of anything or anyone. Always a curiously sweet half-smile was on his face.

He worked in the foundry before he was named. One day the big ladle tipped and the white-hot metal poured out in a cascade of fire. It trapped a negro who ran into a corner for shelter, covering his face with his hands so that he could not see the fire of white-hot metal coming at him.

Joseph leaped over the stream, tore the nigger's hands away from his face, pushed him up a huge casting and then pulled himself up. But his right foot was one second too late. The flood gripped it—and the foot was gone. He lay across the casting with the screaming nigger boy beside him. When they got to Joseph he was unconscious.

Perhaps it was this episode that made old Joseph. Or it might have been their recognition of mysterious magical quality or power he possessed of seeing to the heart of things.

For instance, there was the occasion when he undertook to show his shopmates how to look through a piece of brass.

It was a hot summer night. The night gang had knocked off at midnight for a half-hour of food and rest. Most of them were clustered around the big planer listening to Jerry Bringer, a hot-headed youngster who was kicking about his work.

"I'm sick of this job—I'm sick of it. The same old thing. Put a piece of brass in a lathe, let 'er run, take it out and do that all night long. That's no job for a man. A man ought to make something." Some men laughed. Others shrugged their shoulders. But all were sympathetic—all felt what he could not express.

Then old Joseph spoke. He had picked up a blueprint from Bringer's lathe and a piece of brass that had just been turned. It was part of a valve for a ship engine.

"Jerry, would you like to learn how to see through a piece of brass?" Curiously wiped out the anger in Jerry's heart.

"Sure, Joseph. Go ahead! Let's see."

The old man glanced up at the almost perpendicular hands of the shop clock. There were just a few minutes left of the half-hour rest interval.

"Come here Jerry! Look at this—where the light hits the shiny brass. Look steadily. Don't ever wink. Now, can you see what I can see? I can see that little spot of light getting bigger and bigger. Now it is taking on a new shape. It's a window

in the lighthouse and the light is the morning sun striking the glass."

Jerry dropped a wink to a shopmate, but he was interested. So were the others. Joseph paused. He was staring at the brass like a man in a trance.

"Go on Joe," said one encouragingly. "Tell us what else you see." And he went on!

"I see a sunrise. A stormy sun is moving up with tropical speed. A heavy sea is hurling itself against a barrier of rocks. A tramp steamer, the 'Cassanura,' held fast by the saw-tooth rock ridge, is being smashed to pieces. There are several men clinging to the at-rail. A mountain of water sweeps over them. They are gone. The ship is breaking in two. Now the whole aft section has slipped off the rocks into the boiling water."

Old Joseph turned his gaze to Bringer. "You know, Jerry," he continued, "the reason I can see so much by looking through that piece of brass is because I was in that wreck. Only three men besides myself escaped. Sixty-one others died horribly there fighting for their lives—and all because of a piece of brass just like this."

"You see the engine died. She couldn't stand it when her propeller lifted out of the water and raced. Something had to go. It was a valve. I knew the one. It never did fit well."

"The man who made that valve can't look beyond the mere piece of brass to the purpose it would serve. He thought he was machining a piece of metal only and he should have known he was making a valve for a ship engine in a storm."

"Now look again at this piece of brass. Do you know what I see there now? I see bodies washed up on the sand—washed up on the sand. Dead husbands, dead sons. And all because some workman somewhere—was it here?—was he using a lathe like yours, Jerry?—all because some workman somewhere couldn't see through a piece of brass?"

The rest interval was over. The men returned to their work. As he fitted a new piece of brass in his lathe Jerry turned for a moment to look after Joseph.

Far down the east side he could see him bending over his bench, smiling his old sweet smile, but completely absorbed in his work.

Jacksonville

A variety shower was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Peterson last Tuesday evening in honor of the recent marriage of their daughter Ruth Irene, when many friends called to extend their best wishes. A pleasant evening was spent, and many beautiful gifts in silver, linen, enamelware and furniture were presented to the honored guest. Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Peterson assisted by Doris Moore and Mrs. J. Dow.

Mrs. W. P. Sherwood and son Sgt. Major S. W. Sherwood of Saint John and Rev. and Mrs. W. Emmerson Carpenter, Ludlow, N. B., were in Jacksonville this week for the "argument" wedding.

The many friends of R. B. Vail are sorry to hear of his illness. Jacksonville War Services met last week at Mrs. Charles Harper's. A quilt was finished and several refugee articles were made. Those present were: Mrs. Albert Burtt, Mrs. George Burtt, Miss Patricia Hannah, Miss Myrtle Briggs, Miss Jean Phillips and Mrs. Walter Craig. Dainty refreshments were served by Mrs. Harper assisted by Miss Jean Phillips. The War Services met again this week at the home of Mrs. Walter Craig. A quilt was quilted and articles were gathered in for packing a Salvation Army refugee box for overseas. Those present were Mrs. Albert Burtt, Mrs. Robert Hannah, Miss Myrtle Briggs, Mrs. Charles Harper, Mrs. Robert Hopkins, Miss Jean Phillips and Mrs. Howard Leech. Mrs. Craig was assisted at the tea hour by Mrs. Charles Harper and Miss Jean Phillips.

During the week the members of the War Services finished packing a box of 116 articles of refugee garments for overseas.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald McCain were guests of Mr. McCain's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry McCain on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Burpee motored to Centerville on Sunday.

Hartford

The regular meeting of the Hartford W. I. was held Thursday evening, December 3rd, at the home of Mrs. Earle Cheney with the President, Mrs. George Arbo in the chair. The roll call showed nine members and six visitors present; one new member joined. The roll call was answered with suggestions for inexpensive Christmas gifts.

Mrs. Guy Baker and Mrs. Hazen Strong were appointed on the sick committee and Mrs. Earle Cheney on the school committee.

The war convener reported 2 pair of Seamen's socks ready for the Red Cross. It was decided to give \$5 to the Woodstock Red Cross, and a quilt to be quilted at the January meeting, to be held on the afternoon of January 7th at the home of Mrs. Demie Tompkins.

The President, on behalf of the members presented Mrs. Havelock Black with a gift. Mrs. Black is moving to Woodstock to reside. The mystery Box donated by Mrs. Otho Cheney was won by Mrs. Robert Markoy.

The drawing for the quilt took place, the lucky ticket being No. 69, held by Mrs. Demie Tompkins. There was an exchange of 10 cent gifts among the members, the gifts were distributed from a gaily decorated Christmas tree. At the close of the meeting an apron sale was held, a feature of which was the drawing for an apron donated by the President's mother Mrs. Nettie Roberts of Greenville, Maine. Mr. Lee Cheney drew the apron. Refreshments were served by the hostess, assisted by Mrs. Hazen Strong, Mrs. Otho Cheney and Mrs. Perley Hagerman.

Mrs. George Arbo has returned home after visiting her mother, Mrs. Nettie Roberts, Greenville, Maine.

Mr. and Mrs. Havelock Black are moving to Woodstock to reside. They will be much missed in the community where they have lived a great many years. We extend best wishes to them in their new home.

Mrs. Wm. Graham and Mr. Paul Graham of Charlie Lake were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Harley Graham for a few days.

Miss Marie Bagley of Grafton was a recent guest of her sister, Mrs. Harley Graham.

Mr. Amos Freeman spent a few days in Pinder last week.

Kirkland

Mrs. Robert Greer has gone to Bristol to spend the winter with her daughter Mrs. Hedley Cole.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gidney were visiting friends at Debec on Monday.

Vaughn Graham celebrated his ninth birthday by having a number of his school friends in. The afternoon was spent playing games. Later refreshments were served. Those present were Coleen, Shirley, Colin Eustard, Jean and Jackie Graham, Roland Nicholson Arden, June and Gail Graham, George MacDougall Aileen Donnie, Madeline, Elizabeth and Vaughn Graham.

Mrs. C. Jackson and daughter Hazel have returned from Houlton where they have been visiting friends for two weeks.

Jack Marshall is spending a few days visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Jackson.

Mrs. Albert Dickinson and Clayton spent Sunday in Houlton, Maine.

Elmwood

Mrs. Lawrence Waitt and Vers spent last Saturday in town.

Mr. John Williams who is employed at the Dry Dock in Saint John is spending a few weeks at his home here.

Miss Pearl Scott who has been working for Mrs. Victor Moorcroft for the last year has returned to her home.

Misses Marion and Marjorie Bustard were visiting Vera Waitt on Sunday.

Mrs. Robert Orr is spending a few days at her home.

Mrs. Edward Bustard spent Tuesday in town.

Mr. Fred Carr spent the week-end in St. Stephen. He has been working in St. Croix, but is at home now for a few days.

Mrs. Calvin Carr has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Emery Armour of Canterbury for the last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ivey and children of Houlton, Maine, spent Sunday evening with Mrs. Ivey's mother Mrs. L. Waitt.

Lewis Armour spent Wednesday in town.

Help Canada's War Effort—Buy War Savings Stamps.

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IT'S
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Jacksontown

Red Cross met at the home of Mrs. Ernest Strong on Wednesday afternoon, when one quilt was finished. Those attending were Mrs. Fred Burpee, Mrs. Arnold Bulmer, Miss Myrtle Wolhaupter.

Richard Mallory of U. N. B. Fredericton is spending his vacation with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mallory.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvine McLean and three children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Beacher Bell, Deerville.

Ray McLean Fredericton was an over night guest of his parents Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McLean on Wednesday.

The friends of Robert Gartley were glad to hear that he is improving in health.

Miss Myrtle Wolhaupter held her school closing Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Eva Everett spent a day recently with her brothers, Wesley Margison, Upper Woodstock and Delbert Margison, Grafton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Dow and Mrs. Glenna MacIntosh, Woodstock motored to Florenceville on Wednesday.

Several from here attended the school closing at Upper Jacksonville on Thursday evening.

Meductic

Wireless Air Gunner Angus Walker of Guelph, Ont., is spending leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Angus Walker. Mr. and Mrs. Walker have two sons in the services, Allen, with the Canadian Army Overseas, and Angus in the Air Force. A third son, the late Jack Walker was killed in an explosion in Newfoundland.

The combined departments of the Superior School, here gave a Christmas concert Thursday night. Although it was exceedingly cold a good number attended. The program rendered was a credit both to teachers and pupils and the sum of \$13.54 was realized for school expenditures.

Thurston Dickinson, first year student at Dalhousie University, Halifax, is spending his Christmas holidays at his home here. He expresses himself as well pleased with the staff.

The Sunday School had a small program after classes Sunday morning.

The program consisted of Exercises and recitations and a duet by Mrs. Jewett and H. B. Scott.

The teachers have all returned to their own homes for the holidays.

The closing at the school taught by Miss Audrey McNeil was a grand success. The usual program and examination was held.

A party of young folks had a tomato stew at Scott's restaurant on Wednesday night. Among those present were: June Way, Blanche Ingham, Evelyn Wakem, Roy Best, Hazen Cummings, Junior Ingham, Edison Cummings, Carl Cronkhitte and Gerald Stairs.

Mrs. Wilfred Jewett, Mrs. Clayton Rogers and Harry Dow sang at the funeral of the late Mr. Grant of Temple who was buried in the Hillman burying ground.

Glassville

Mrs. Clement Perry spent Wednesday in Bristol.

Mrs. Raymond Linder and Mrs. Bramley, E. Glassville called on Mrs. Robert Lee Tuesday afternoon.

The W. I. met on Thursday Dec. 17, at the home of Mrs. John F. Scott.

Mrs. Effie Scott called on Mrs. Wilfred Pearson on Thursday morning.

Arthur Perry spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clement Perry.

William Sweet spent Sunday afternoon with John Scott.

Mrs. Clarence Anderson and Helen Conden spent Wednesday with Mrs. John Scott.

Janet Stone called on Mrs. D. H. Lamont on Tuesday afternoon.

Joyce McIntosh Bristol spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McIntosh.

Lawrence Sweet, Juniper called on Mrs. William Sweet, Wednesday.

Phillip Dyer spent the week-end at his home in Bristol.

NEWNHAM and SLIPP Expect to have a limited supply of LAURA SECORD CHOCOLATES, for sale this Christmas. They cannot take any Reserve orders at present.

Help Canada's War Effort—Buy War Savings Stamps.

Knights of Pythias Donate Ambulance



The above Ambulance donated to the Government of Canada by the members of the Order Knights of Pythias, Maritime Provinces. This Ambulance has now been in service overseas for several months.

The Knights of Pythias are continuing to give every support to the successful prosecution of the war and are giving of their time and money to the many local war organizations in the various localities.