

INTERESTING REVIEW OF WORK OF DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE

Report Submitted at the Recent Meeting of the Provincial Chapter by Mrs. W. J. Scott of Fredericton--Many New Chapters Organized During the Year--Comforts For Our Brave Soldier Boys.

The following report on the activities of the Daughters of the Empire was read at the recent meeting of the Provincial Chapter, by Mrs. W. J. Scott:

Madame President and Ladies,—I have great pleasure in submitting the sixteenth annual report of the Provincial Chapter, I. O. D. E. This Chapter was organized in February, 1900. There are now 15 primary chapters in the province and three children's chapters. Four new chapters have been organized in the past year, the "Ashburnham," in Fredericton; "Canterbury," in Canterbury; the "Mersereau-Bunker" in Ruslingorish, and the "Earl of Chatham," which was organized in Chatham about a month ago. The primary chapters have a total membership of 693. The Daughters of the Empire in this province have raised during the year \$38,366.41. This, together with the proceeds of the St. John Patriotic Auction, in which the St. John chapters assisted, would amount to \$69,366.41.

During the year the Provincial Chapter has had fifteen meetings. There were two quarterly meetings, the October one being held in Fredericton and the January one in St. John. We have also had 11 regular executive meetings and two special meetings.

Shortly after the meeting of the National Chapter in Halifax, we met in Moncton by special request of the National President, to arrange about giving St. John representation on the Provincial Executive. It was decided to make that the regular June meeting. At the October quarterly meeting members were present from St. John, Moncton, and Sackville, and a profitable and I trust pleasant day was spent in work for the Order.

At the quarterly meeting in St. John in January, a most delightful afternoon was spent at the Old Manor House, where the visiting members were charmingly entertained by the St. John chapters, and where the meeting was held. Mrs. Gooderham's letter with regard to the Maple Leaf Club Annex was read there, and the movement was heartily approved and endorsed by the meeting.

A communication with regard to the

great need of Russian prisoners in Germany was also read. It was moved that a copy of this letter be sent to each chapter. This was done.

Christmas Gift Fund.

The Christmas Gift Fund was not as largely subscribed to as we could wish. This was mainly due to the fact that most of the chapters had already spent all they could afford in the Christmas work before this appeal reached them.

The Provincial Chapter was asked to organize the province for the collection on Trafalgar day in aid of the British Red Cross, but we found that many of the chapters had already arranged to assist the Mayors' funds in the different towns under the auspices of the Lieutenant Governor. In Fredericton the collection was organized by our chapter and \$18.89 was realized.

During the summer a dinner was given to the 28th Battery the day they left here for the front, and 200 pairs of socks were packed and sent with their stores to be distributed to them in England. We also had a bountiful supply of substantial lunches done up for them. The women of Fredericton have provided lunches each time any men have left here. In all the local work accomplished it is almost impossible to say just what the Provincial Chapter has done, as all the D. O. E. in the city work together.

Christmas Day dainties such as pies and cakes and fruit were sent in to supplement the soldiers' dinners at the two military depots here.

On New Year's day a turkey dinner with all the appurtenances thereof was served by the ladies of the city under the direction of the I. O. D. E. Everything went off without a hitch, and the men were delighted with the feast provided for them.

A turkey dinner was served at the military hospital the following week.

The Central Committee continued its work during the year, under the leadership of the local officers and members of the Provincial Chapter. The Government still provides us with comfortable and commodious rooms in the Parliament Buildings, and the New Brunswick Telephone Co. gives us a telephone free of charge. A meeting

of the Central Committee has been held each week, at which reports of various committees are received and accounts passed.

Bought Wholesale.

All our supplies are bought wholesale, which of course enables us to get the largest amount for the money expended. We have taken in during the year \$6,390.13. Practically all of this has been spent for materials such as yarn, 2,400 lbs., flannel, flannelette, 6,842 yds., and factory cotton. The garments are all cut by the cutting committee at the rooms, and made up by hundreds of women in the city and the surrounding country. Our rooms have been open every week day during the year, always with two ladies in charge, and people from the city and from outlying districts call for yarn and cut-out garments to make up, so that there is a steady flow of raw material out and finished garments in.

With greater experience, our work is even better organized than last year. The various committees have been energetic and faithful, and in this connection I would like to mention especially the tireless efforts of our President, Mrs. Vanwart, who has superintended and helped with all the packing and shipping, and typed the lists of goods herself, as well as presiding at numberless meetings. We have been complimented several times by the people overseas who unpack our cases, on our excellent packing system, as well as on the quality of the goods sent.

Last May sheets, pillow slips, towels, pyjamas, shirts and other hospital supplies were sent to help equip the new wing of Shorncliffe hospital.

For the Military Hospital.

For our local military hospital we have contributed in various ways, providing a set of dishes, table knives, forks and spoons, trays and covers, slippers for the orderlies, hospital shirts and pyjama suits, dressing gowns, curtains, and in an emergency which occurred we provided extra coats and mattresses.

A number of soldiers have had to be taken to Victoria Hospital at different times, so we sent one dozen night-shirts for their use, and made up fifteen more, the cotton being donated for that purpose by a gentleman in town.

We have sent out during the year 142 cases of goods, and of these twenty or more were large packing cases before we began to use the Red Cross boxes. These cases went to the Red Cross, Soldiers' Comforts and Canadian War Contingent Association, and contained the following:

Towels	7,038
Bandages	5,708
Pyjama Suits	828
Hospital Shirts	1,896
Feather Pillows	73
Pillow Slips	760
Sheets	370
Surgical Pads	1,897
Mouth wipes	12,770
Hospital Handkerchiefs	2,490
Field Handkerchiefs	2,496
Face Cloths	476
Quilts and Blankets	23

Hold-alls	79
Mittens (pairs)	234
Chocolate (lbs.)	590
Field Shirts	174
Wristlets	60
Bed Jackets	76
Sleeping Caps	73
Scarfs	20
Total number socks (pairs)	5,285

Also a large number of Christmas boxes containing stationery, chocolates, gum, cigarettes, thread, needles, soap, pipes, etc.

Of the socks 3,526 pairs were packed and sent overseas in the usual way; 1,267 pairs were packed and given to different units before they left here, to be distributed after they reached England, or when needed, and 492 pairs were white socks which were sent to hospitals.

The necessary funds for carrying on our work have been raised in many different ways. A great deal of money has come to us in voluntary subscriptions. The employees of J. J. Weddall & Son contribute a certain percentage of their salaries each month. Many Women's Institutes throughout the province have given generously of money, as well as boxes of beautifully made socks, pyjama suits, hospital shirts, field shirts and other garments. We would like to give the name of each Institute which has contributed, but space forbids. Much credit is due to the organizer, Miss Winter, who has been tireless in her efforts to interest the Institutes in this great work.

The Hiawatha Play.

Last June a play, "Hiawatha," was put on by Miss Skates, of Fort Fairfield, using local talent, mostly children, and \$226 of the proceeds came to us. Early in the fall a concert under the direction of Mrs. Calder brought in \$263.55.

On July 12th we held a Flag Day, and raised quite a sum of money.

We have also received money from the Eastern Star and Masons' Wives of the city and from Sir Howard Douglas Chapter. The Golden Rule Circle of King's Daughters have contributed money, and large quantities of work. The Ladies' Aid of the Roman Catholic Church contributed nearly \$250. The Junior Aid of the Presbyterian Church has sent money on two or three different occasions, also the Junior W. A. of the Church of England. Loyal Orange Lodges and Sons of Temperance in small places have added their quota.

A very pleasing feature is the intense interest shown by children. We have received money from them raised by candy and doll clothes sales, concerts and sales of flowers.

Looking back over the records of the year, we can say that the New Brunswick Daughters of the Empire have done well. Shall we press forward into the next year's work with a determination to do still better? Let us sink all thought of self, and bending every energy to the great work which we have undertaken, do all we possibly can for the brave men who have gone and are going to bleed and die for us on the fields of France and Belgium.

(Continued on page 3.)

HOLIDAY HATS

Special Hats for the 24th in good variety at Holiday Prices.

Every kind of Outing and Sports Hat may be found in our showrooms at Bargain Rates.

Misses and Childrens Hats included in this Holiday Sale.

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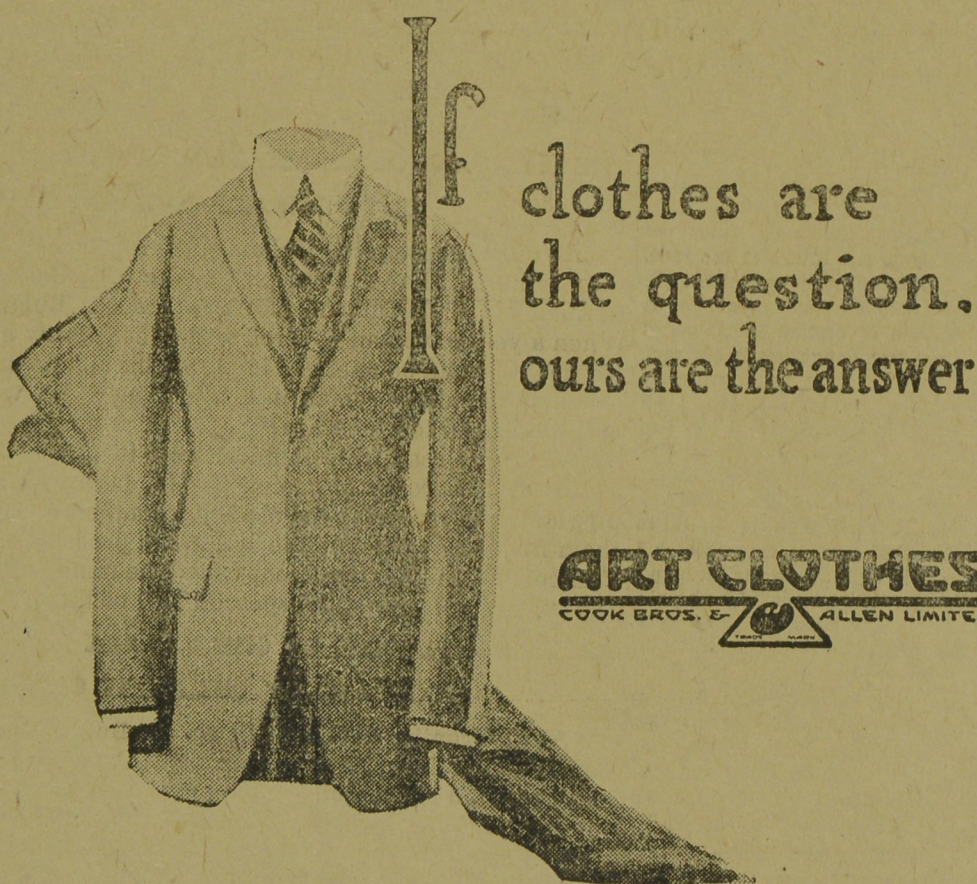
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