

# CATHOLIC ARMY HUTS PROGRESS REPORT

TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DELEGATES ASSEMBLED IN  
CONVENTION AT WINDSOR ON JUNE 4TH AND 5TH, 1918 :

Throughout the history of the Knights of Columbus in Ontario probably no better evidence of the power of unity could be cited than the campaign of last year, inaugurated by the State executive, for assistance to the Catholic Chaplains Overseas in the name of Catholic Army Huts; in no way could the three cardinal principles of the order,—Charity, Unity and Brotherly Love—be better or more fully exemplified. Without a guiding precedent, without a mandate from the members, without organization for a campaign of such magnitude, your state officers, under the very capable leadership of State Deputy Bro. J. L. Murray, abundantly displayed to the people of all Canada the virility of our membership, and to the soldiers and beloved priests overseas manifested our devotion, zeal and generosity in providing our fighting men with the means of religious practice and mental and physical relaxation. True, \$70,000 may not be considered a large amount from the Catholic people of Ontario, but it is a matter of satisfaction that in the State Convention of last year we only committed ourselves to approximately \$7,000. or one dollar per capita, and we gave upward of ten times that amount, and in the success of that initial campaign of 1917 there is ample evidence that when our priests and our men on the battle front again send the clarion call across the waters of the Atlantic, help will be immediately forthcoming in full measure and overflowing from the Catholic people not alone of Ontario but from all the federated provinces that comprise the great Dominion of Canada.

Let me here relate briefly the events that led up to the application for authority to organize the Catholic Army Huts, the necessity for such an organization acting under and by authority of a government charter, and something of the more important features of the campaign itself.

## DEVELOPMENT OF AN ORGANIZATION.

As to the development of the proposal, that the Knights of Columbus of Ontario should render assistance to the Overseas chaplains, an appeal was made at last year's convention by Major Rev. J. J. O'Gorman, which was substantiated by letter from Col. Rev. W. T. Workman, M. C., Director Catholic Chaplain Services, Canadian Headquarters, London, and from the Most Rev. Apostolic Delegate.

The Ontario State Convention unanimously pledged its unqualified support to the appeal, and a per capita tax of \$1.00 per member was immediately levied.

It was further resolved that owing to the urgency of the appeal,