

I.O.D.E. GREAT PATRIOTIC WORK IN WESTERN ONTARIO

WHAT MEMBERS OF ORDER ARE DOING IN WAY OF WAR RELIEF IN DISTRICT

CHAPTER REPORTS TELL OWN STORY OF PATRIOTIC ENDEAVORS OF PAST YEAR

I. O. D. E. MEMBERS FROM NO. 1 MILITARY DISTRICT GATHER HERE FOR ANNUAL RALLY AND DISCUSSION OF THE WORK

Western Ontario Women Workers in Convention Show by Reports How Much Has Been Accomplished in Past Year for King and Country by Chapters of Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

London today is the Mecca of members of the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire of Western Ontario, who have gathered to represent the chapters from the various centres throughout Military District No. 1 at the annual conference.

Sessions are being held in Cronyn Hall, elaborately and tastefully decorated for the occasion with numerous flags and immense clusters of white stars, under the supervision of Mrs. Fred White.

At 10 o'clock the out-of-town visitors began to arrive at the hall, where they were cordially welcomed by the executive of the Municipal Chapter and other members of the order in the city.

Exhibition of Local Work. An exhibition of work done by London chapters on a table in the rear, with a demonstration of the proper packing of bales, attracted much attention.

Though not large in quantity, owing to the supplying recently of a number of emergency demands, and the fact that many of the most active workers have been holidaying, the work evoked much admiration for its quality.

This exhibit was arranged by Mrs. Callard, regent of the Trafalgar Chapter, and the members of the packing committee.

After an hour devoted to registering, becoming acquainted and the other formalities connected with arriving at a rally of the kind, the first session opened, Mrs. Niven presiding as regent of the Municipal Chapter and hostess of the day.

The prayer of the order was first repeated in unison.

Announces Death of Mrs. Milligan.

Next came the saluting of the flag, after which a short address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Niven. Her first duty was a sad one, to announce the death this morning of Mrs. Milligan, wife of Major Milligan of the 18th Battalion, who has been in command of the unit since the return of Col. Wigle to Canada.

Major Milligan is at present on the sea, on his way home, called by his wife's illness. Mrs. Milligan was a valued member of the 2nd Regiment Chapter, and a daughter of Mrs. Alken of the Trafalgar Chapter.

On suggestion of Mrs. Niven, a resolution of sympathy was moved to Major Milligan and the members of the family of the late Daughter of the Empire. Continuing her address, Mrs. Niven pleaded for greater earnestness in service of King and country, more seriousness in conception of duty for the coming year, citing as examples worthy to follow the women of France and Russia. Special pleas were made for the prisoners in Germany. Her salient, "The watch-dogs of our seas," for the hospital patients, both in this country and in England, and finally given the emphasis of a climax, a plea for assistance of the brave French allies. In connection with this, announcement was made of the French tag day to be held in the city September 30 in aid of the French National Red Cross work in France.

Adjourned for Lunch.

Reports from several chapters represented were read, the meeting adjourning shortly after 12 o'clock. A special invitation was given the visitors to visit the Soldiers' Club on Dundas street, near Wellington.

Afternoon Program.

The afternoon program in detail follows: 2 o'clock, formal opening. God Save the King. Greetings from headquarters staff and address, Col. L. W. Shannon, D.O.C. Civic greetings. His Worship Mayor Stevenson. Further words of welcome, Mrs. H. A. Boomer, honorary regent of the Municipal Chapter. Reports of delegates concluded. Report of Municipal Chapter by the secretary, Mrs. R. M. Graham. Report of soldiers' comfort committee of Municipal Chapter by Mrs. C. T. Campbell, acting convener. Report of organizing

secretary for district, Mrs. A. A. Campbell.

Next Year's Meeting.

Discussion regarding the time of meeting next year, question to be settled by the delegates. Reason for change owing to the absence still from town of many of the local members of the order, and the fact that many of outside chapters are absent because still holidaying.

4:15 o'clock, close of conference and drive to Carling Heights, where afternoon tea will be served on the lawn at the barracks. General convener of tea committee, Mrs. E. B. Smith, Mrs. J. B. McKillop and Mrs. W. A. McCrimmon taking charge in absence of Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Callard, Mrs. A. E. Miller, Mrs. Fred White and Mrs. W. D. I. Wright pouring tea and members of junior chapters assisting in serving.

Avonorton Chapter, 11 Months Old.

Avonorton Chapter was organized eleven months ago. It has raised \$642.25 for soldiers' comforts and otherwise to relieve suffering of war.

Has adopted two prisoners of war. Has used money collected as follows: \$50 to furnish ward in hospital in England for Canadian soldiers; \$50 for comforts for soldiers at the front; \$25 for French relief fund; \$50 for luxuries for soldiers at the front; 237 flannel shirts for soldiers in trenches; 221 pairs of socks; 19 dozen pillowcases to Red Cross; 30 towels; 2 dozen face cloths; 425 dozen mouthpieces; 22 feather pillows; 11 dozen handkerchiefs; 3 parcels of cotton; 1 parcel of flannel.

Walkerton Chapter, Soldiers' Club.

Among outstanding features of an active year for the Walkerton Chapter has been the opening of a clubroom for the men of the 18th Battalion (the Bruce Battalion) and the presentation of comforts. The chapter has met for work twice a week and turned out 900 pairs of socks, 300 shirts, and made and shipped thousands of surgical dressings. Contributions made to the Belgian tobacco, motor ambulance and British Red Cross funds, as well as to the King George and Queen Mary Hostel, and the Christmas fund. Jam and Christmas parcels sent overseas.

M. E. McGREGOR, Secretary Walkerton Chapter.

Stratford Chapter Collects Old Papers.

The following is from a report furnished by the secretary, Miss Mildred Mill of Mary Armstrong Chapter, Stratford.

The Mary Armstrong Chapter celebrated its first birthday last February, and is launched on its second year's work with a crew of 45 members. The chapter realizes the great need of work to be done this year, perhaps greater than ever before.

Including donations and collections, the sum of \$597.30 has been raised by the following means:

A rose subscription ball on Easter Monday, when the boys of A Company, 13th Battalion, attended their last dance before leaving Stratford.

A recital by pupils of Miss Peace, under auspices of the chapter, to which total proceeds were given. Donation of part of proceeds from the manager of a local theatre, when war pictures were being presented one evening.

A chain of "ten-cent teas," afternoon spent in sewing and knitting. Old papers and newspapers collected and sold. Lapsed during summer, but working up "paper campaign" again. Presented A Company and Base Company, 13th Battalion, with nearly 300 "housewives" July 1.

Held a successful trench shower for boys at the front, donations to be sent as Christmas gifts.

Sewing, knitting, etc., at regular meetings.

Tilbury Chapter Membership Doubles.

Tilbury Chapter organized June 9 of present year. Membership increased from 24 to 61. Initial event on this chapter's program of work was serving of midnight supper to the local Masonic fraternity, whereby \$21.50 was raised. Held tag day for prisoners of war on Dominion Day, raising \$21.50.

A lawn social on July 4 netted \$124.24. A picnic on August 19 to Thames Lighthouse added \$114 to the treasury. The proceeds of a refreshment booth, an afternoon tea and a baking sale the past three Sundays, bring the total amount raised in three months up to \$427.64. Twelve dollars received in donations, and \$147.38 transferred to the I. O. D. E. treasury when the Women's Patriotic League disbanded, making total receipts \$597.02. Original objective for year's work, \$1,000. Donations have been given to the Red Cross Society, Toronto; the Queen's Canadian Military Hospital; prisoners of war department (\$300); Secours National, a total of \$255. In July, 22 boxes of comforts forwarded to local boys in trenches. The sewing committee has made one shipment to the Red Cross, and with the knitting contingent resuming work next week.

Two war clasps have been conferred on members who have given sons for overseas service. Purpose continuing custom during the war. Each local soldier on his departure for overseas is presented with 2 pairs of socks and other comforts.

The slogan of the chapter is "Economy."

STELLA E. HUTTON, Secretary.

Edgerton Torrance Chapter, Milverton.

Organized June 26, 1916, by Mrs. McKillop, Stratford. Began with thirteen members; now have 42.

By means of a tea, garden party and concert, have raised to date \$50. The county council donated \$50 to the chapter to be used in the purchase of supplies. There was also a donation from the Baseball Club of \$1.50.

We have been working on pyjamas, hospital shirts and khaki shirts, also personal property bags. The knitting committee also are very busy.

As we are not shipping anything, but are planning to do so soon.

The library board have kindly given us the reading-room to work in.

EDNA O. TYE.

28th Regiment Chapter, Stratford.

Organized August, 1914, with 175 members of good standing. Regular monthly meetings held last Tuesday each month.

Mrs. William Lawrence, regent. Mrs. Gordon Rankin, treasurer. Mrs. Makins, secretary.

Since organizing our chapter has worked for the Red Cross, sending monthly, bales to the Red Cross Society, Toronto, and to Western War Contingent, London.

The bales to the Western War Contingent, London, average each month: 10 dozen grey flannel shirts, 22 dozen pairs socks. Until the recent order came from headquarters to suspend surgical work till further orders, the bales sent to Toronto monthly averaged: Two surgical shirts, 17 surgical kits, 376 dozen small pads, and 22 dozen large pads, 156 dozen compresses, 1 dozen man-tailed bandages and 7,000 gauze wipes in addition to regular hospital supplies.

During the past year, the 28th Regiment Chapter has spent on Red Cross work \$5,160. Donated \$25 a month to Canadian tobacco fund; donated \$25 for prisoners in Germany; sent \$200 for Christmas gifts to Canadian soldiers in the trenches; sent \$500 to British Red Cross; \$200 toward motor ambulance from D. O. E. of London, Ont., for France; \$200 to Maple Leaf Club Recreation Hotel for Canadian Soldiers on leave in England from France; \$300 toward Jubilee fund for sailors; \$200 toward Belgian relief fund; \$100 for French relief work; \$50 to Dominion Tactile Press Company, for literature to the blind; \$300 to Perth Battalion for comforts for soldiers.

In Stratford, for a year, we have had an organized house-to-house collection of city, carried on each month by the members of chapter, by which a monthly fund of \$600 is raised for Red Cross work.

work. This is usually augmented by further donations amounting to about \$100. This sum is used entirely for Red Cross work, and donations to recognized organizations taking care of our soldiers by land and by sea, and to relief of those who are in need, through war conditions. (MRS.) N. MAKINS, Secretary 28th Regiment Chapter, Stratford.

Walkerville Chapter, Helps Many Objects.

Mabel A. Wollatt, treasurer of the Walkerville Chapter, I. O. D. E., has forwarded the following financial statement, which gives some insight into the work of this chapter from the time it was organized last December until September 1st:

Feas: \$75.00

Badges, constitutions, etc. 25.55

Subscriptions and donations 214.70

Six monthly teas 53.85

Wool and material 88.30

Theatre proceeds and dances 157.20

Benefit concerts and dances 157.20

Town grant 150.00

Paper and magazine collections 82.44

Total \$1,432.94

Expenditures:

National treasurer's fees, etc. 63.63

Traveling and incidentals 65.02

801.85

Christmas gift fund 25.00

Beds in I. O. D. E. annex 60.00

Maple Leaf Club, London.

Secours National 50.00

Our proportion colors for 99th Regiment 50.92

Total \$1,147.43

Balance on hand 285.51

Old Rags and Paper Collected by This Chapter.

Marjorie T. Clark, secretary of the Admiral Van Sittart Chapter, I. O. D. E., reports as follows:

The Admiral Van Sittart Chapter, I. O. D. E., has during the year raised money for various patriotic purposes, giving three dances, a bridge, a talent tea, and an organ recital, and also by raffling a table and making a quilt. Every month a collection is made for the overseas tobacco fund to supply smokers for the men in the trenches and socks are also regularly sent to men at the front. Weekly sewing meetings have been held, at which hospital supplies were made and money has been contributed to the British Red Cross fund, to the I. O. D. E. annex, to the Maple Leaf Club, to the motor ambulance, to a local fund for wounded soldier, and comforts sent to hospitals in France. A collection of old papers, rags, etc., was made in June, which proved most successful.

S. S. No. 4, Gore of Downie Chapter, In Unity Is Strength, is the motto of S. S. No. 4, Gore of Downie Chapter, which derived its name from the school section in which the members reside.

This chapter was organized in December, 1914, with a membership of 26, which has now increased to 38.

Since September, 1915, the chapter has raised \$1,247, a portion of which has been donated as follows: British Red Cross \$50, Motor Ambulance \$25, Christmas gift fund \$10, Maple Leaf Club, London, England, \$25, special comfort fund \$25, Western University \$15, French refugees \$20, Belgian relief fund \$50. The chapter have also sent 376 flannel shirts, 248 pairs socks, 28 surgical shirts, 4 1/2 dozen handkerchiefs, 25 pairs pillowcases, 225 mouthpieces, 156 bandages, 204 surgical kits, 1 pair wristlets, 2 pairs towels, 5 quilts, and a number of surgical pads.

MRS. J. A. THISTLE, Secretary.

Thomas G. Delamere Chapter, St. Marys Road.

During the last year we raised \$1,488 by picnics, lawn socials, etc. We made 269 flannel shirts, 255 hand-knit socks, and made donations to Red Cross, Military Hospital Unit, Funds for blind soldiers, soldiers' comforts, etc., \$35.

Our membership is 36, representing 27 families.

MRS. HENRY MORROW, Regent.

Named After Chatham War Hero.

The Major George Smith Chapter, named after one of Chatham's first heroes to give his life in the war, was organized October 14, 1916. The 14th Kent Regiment Chapter was growing so large it was thought more work could be accomplished by the younger members in a separate organization. The following officers were chosen:

Regent—Miss Gladys Taylor.

First Vice-Regent—Miss Eileen Glenn.

Second Vice-Regent—Miss Jean McLachlan.

Secretary—Mrs. Chester Glenn.

Assistant Secretary—Mrs. John Harvey.

Treasurer—Miss Erva Thompson.

Standard-Bearer—Miss Edna Richards.

The present membership is 75, and weekly meetings are held in the auditorium of the Chatham Club. Comforts are made and knitting done for the soldiers. At Christmas, each member dressed a doll to put on a Christmas tree for the children of the soldiers.

At the end of June our treasurer reported \$617.91. Cooking sales have been held, numerous teas, a military euchre party, a sacred concert, and a considerable sum was realized at a vaudeville show. This money has been spent in buying gauze for Red Cross work, and wool to knit socks. Fifty dollars was sent to head office for the Christmas gift fund, and at numerous times donations have been sent to the fund for Canadian prisoners in Germany.

At present "housewives" are being made, so that every member of the 18th Kent Battalion will have one when he leaves for the front.

GRACE F. GLENN, Secretary.

Disabled Soldiers' Fund.

The Talbot Chapter of Dutton has started a local disabled soldiers' fund, which amounts to about \$500. The members have pledged themselves to enlarge this as they are able.

Mrs. R. K. Panter, the regent, writes: As yet we have made this year no special effort in raising money except by house-to-house canvass monthly, which brings in from \$20 to \$25, but efforts are to be put forth this fall and winter to make money to fill our almost empty treasury.

Our membership is small, only 23 members.

One hundred and seventy pairs of hand-knit socks have been given to local men who have gone overseas, 150 pairs given to men of the 91st Battalion.

This chapter has sent 1 bale overseas through the London Branch of the C. R. C. S. Relief bales have also been sent to fire sufferers in Northern Ontario, containing bedding, etc.; \$100 was donated to the Western University Hospital unit; \$25 to Serbian relief; \$10 to the tobacco fund.

Runsey Chapter Has Resourceful Membership.

Runsey Chapter, St. Marys, has a membership of 24 girls, each of whom takes an active interest in the work of the chapter. During the past year, various ways of raising funds have been used, chief of which were a Tipperary tea room, open throughout the winter, normal teas held at the homes of the individual members who invited ten guests, each of whom was charged the nominal fee of ten cents, a booth on St. Marys' Fair Day, at which tea, cream cones, home-made candies, sandwiches and coffee were sold, the selling of white flowers on the streets before Mothers' Day, an aluminum demonstration, a sacred hand concert and patriotic dances. About a year ago the chapter gave under its auspices, a musical Kernis in which over 100 local people took part and which netted a neat sum.

Each Tuesday afternoon work meetings are held at the homes of the members in turn at which tea is served and a fee of five cents charged, which amount takes the form of a fine if the member is absent.

The disbursements included \$100 for four-cots at the Queen's Military Hospital at Shorncliffe, \$100 in aid of British Red Cross, \$50 to the Western Ontario Motor Ambulance Fund, \$10 to the Italian Hospital fund, \$10 for a Bugle Band for the 110th (Perth) Battalion, \$100 to the Western University Hospital Unit, \$10 for French soldiers on Basille Day, \$50 for a bed at Ramsgate Hospital, England, and \$15 at our last meeting in response to an appeal from the educational section of the National Chapter for a school library for foreign children in the Province of Saskatchewan.

The total receipts for our financial year ending last February were \$334.12.

IRENE J. EDDY, Secretary.

Providing for Six War Prisoners.

The Kent Chapter, I. O. D. E., of Ridgeway, is providing each month comforts for six Canadian prisoners of

work. This is usually augmented by further donations amounting to about \$100. This sum is used entirely for Red Cross work, and donations to recognized organizations taking care of our soldiers by land and by sea, and to relief of those who are in need, through war conditions. (MRS.) N. MAKINS, Secretary 28th Regiment Chapter, Stratford.

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