

The Division of Women's Voluntary Services encourages the centres to maintain a flexible organization that adapts itself to supplying volunteers for all community as well as national war projects. The Division does not and will not replace or overlap existing organizations, but seeks the assistance of and lends assistance to all national organizations and local groups of women's organizations.

Voluntary effort has been more completely organized on a community basis in the several centres which use the "Block Plan" as a method of organization. Through the Plan many programs using volunteers are organized through block, sector and zone leaders and centralized under a block committee. Block leaders and other volunteers visit every home in their sector, bringing information on various projects, seeking support for these and bringing new volunteers into the centre. This community zoning system, similar to that in use by the Air Raid Precautions organization, forms an organizational and communications background for W.V.S.

Volunteers from W.V.S. have served in numerous projects including:

- Hospitality for men and women in the armed services;
- Hospitality for war workers;
- Salvage;
- Nutrition education;
- Sale of war savings certificates, stamps and bonds;
- Civilian defence;
- Comforts-canteen assistance, books and magazine services;
- Conservation of clothing and food information;
- Victory Gardens;
- Price Control;
- Rationing;
- General Health;
- Community Welfare projects;
- Volunteers for Wartime Day Nurseries;
- Volunteers for school communal food projects;
- Housing.

The Edmonton W.V.S. Centre recently collected 18,000 books for the I.O.D.E. through its Block organization, while the Mount Royal division of the Montreal W.V.S., through its block organization, recruited 1,800 blood donors for the Red Cross. Centres in Winnipeg and London, Ontario, are using the Block Plan to make collections for the annual Community Chest campaign for civic welfare work. Toronto, Fort Erie, and Edmonton centres have used the Block Plan to assist in the collection of salvage. Fort William W.V.S. used its Block organization in August, 1943, to distribute the third ration book. Edmonton used the W.V.S. centre Block Plan in the fourth Victory Loan, volunteers making the contact with householders and arranging to have bond salesmen call at homes wishing to make a purchase. The W.V.S. in Cornwall, Ontario, through its Block organization, contacted every home in making a survey for immunization of children against diphtheria, and as a result, 1,200 children were treated at a toxoid clinic. The first mass tuberculosis survey ever attempted in Canada was made at the request and under the direction of the Superintendent of the Saskatoon Sanatorium by the Saskatoon W.V.S. through its block organization, and 80% of citizens interviewed attended the clinic.

These examples indicate how fully volunteers working through W.V.S. centres have fused their services to achieve the ultimate objective - assisting Canada to do its full share in winning the war.

Women's Regional Advisory Committees of the Consumer Branch, Wartime Prices and Trade Board, and the W.V.S. have cross-representation on their local committees in order to assure the closest collaboration.

Women's Voluntary Services Centres in Ontario and Quebec assumed responsibility for recruiting wartime day nursery volunteers in the areas where nurseries have been organized under the Dominion-Provincial equal-cost agreement, which went into effect in both provinces in July and