

scores of instances where people of small means have given generously to help the soldiers' dependents.

Funds that are gathered together from such sources, that represent the sacrifices of thousands of patriotic citizens, must necessarily be carefully safeguarded. The national Executive and the Relief Committees of our branches realize that they are handling trust funds. However much their sympathies may be moved, they feel that they can only give assistance within certain well-defined lines. The Canadian Patriotic Fund has been incorporated by act of Parliament. It is governed, therefore, by laws which, if broken, would bring those responsible for so doing, into danger of punishment. The Act of Incorporation says: "The object of the Corporation shall be to collect, administer and distribute the Fund for the assistance, **in case of need**, of the wives, children and dependent relatives of officers and men, resident in Canada, who during the present war may be on active service with the Naval and Military forces of the British Empire and Great Britain's Allies." With this Act before them, the first question that every Relief Committee must ask is this: Would Mrs.—and her family be "in need" if there were no Patriotic Fund? If the answer be "No, they would not," then that family, no matter how many members may have gone to the front, has no valid claim on the Fund. If the answer be "Yes, the family without assistance could not decently live on the