

temperature up as usual and do not fuss glass front with a blanket, and when many chicks are out and seem to be crowding, open the door. In a second or so the dry lively specimens can be put into the nursery without any harm to them or the unhatched eggs. Close the machine and leave them alone for another 12 hours, when all should be hatched.

A complaint has come in of hens dying out and not laying all winter. No doubt, these hens have damp quarters and have been fed too much soft food. Boiled potatoes or barley have been freely used and liver troubles have set in. Mash should be cut out and a dose of salts given and dry feed.

### Repatriation Work at the Halifax Port

Imagine, if you can, an organization that has handled the reception of such a party as 600 women and children or 130 babies under the age of twelve months, asking, like Oliver Twist, for more, and you have an idea of the attitude of Halifax women's organizations at the present time.

The above number, 180 infants in arms, arrived on the Megantic's last trip. On another occasion the total number of women and children arriving was 1,000. Yet the workers state that they would be glad to welcome more at the port.

One little mother, who anticipated a new arrival, landed with two children. She was put into a hospital and local organizations cared for the children until the mother was fit to travel again. It was six weeks before the little party were re-united. In the meantime all had been cared for voluntarily by the organizations at this port. At the end of the time the mother of the bonny new-born babe and her other children were put safely on the train and in the care of other workers departed for their new home.

The National Red Cross Society has a trained nurse at this port to give advice and assistance, and her work has been particularly valuable in the case of young mothers travelling with infants.

Immigration and railway officials have all contributed their share to make the work and reception and entraining pleasant and smooth.

The kindly sympathetic women, who meet their stranger sisters from overseas, look after their baggage, help them through customs, see that the little parties get sufficient rest, post and write letters, exchange money and in every possible way, even to providing warmer clothing for the children, help the newcomers to feel that they have come to a land of friends.

Nor does the good work cease when the parties leave the port. They are escorted to the train by the same willing helpers and placed in charge of trained nurses, who travel with them.

One such train, a few weeks since, carried 400 women and children in ten



Travelling representatives of the Y.W.C.A. at the port of St. John, N.B.

Since the first boatload of soldiers' dependents arrived, Halifax has achieved wonders, 100 voluntary workers, representing all branches of women's organizations, hold themselves in readiness to assist at the port any hour of the day or night.

Reception rooms for the mothers and children are splendidly adapted with good light and heat. There is a large nursery containing 20 beds, a rest room for the mothers with cosy chairs and couches, and a tea-room adjoining, where light refreshments are served at a very small cost. For instance, two sandwiches and tea or coffee, can be obtained for ten cents, or refreshments are free for those who are short of money. Milk is distributed free of charge to the children and babies.

One of the best patronized departments is the babies' washroom. This is stocked with all kinds of necessities for the little ones.

Frequently the rooms are kept open all night to accommodate travellers of small means who have to wait over, and on these occasions some entertainment, either in the form of a concert or pleasant social evening, is given. In this respect the Y.M.C.A. have given splendid co-operation.

Special attention is given to the needs of the sick people. They are taken to the hospital, visited frequently and the military authorities have loaned an ambulance for such cases.

cars. The entire party was in charge of a medical officer and a trained nurse. The first day away a number of the children developed colds and minor ailments, and the doctor established a clinic in the smoking room of one car, where the patients came in daily for dressings and medicine. Those who were too sick to walk to the little clinic were attended to by the nurse in their berths.

The women who are the objects of so much care and forethought are not slow to express their gratitude and appreciation.

The old saying that "first impressions are everything" is being worked to death in Halifax, for the women of that city are evidently determined that no impression but the best and kindest shall be carried away by the parties whose initial entry into Canada will probably color their whole aspect of life in this country for future days.

"I have seen a bad leader give the most popular music imaginable to a crowd and awaken no response whatever; while a good leader would give a wholly unknown composition to the same people and you would see them strongly responsive. So one can put it down as an axiom, that we cannot know, it is impossible to know, whether people will like a given composition until it is given to them by a thoroughly competent conductor." This was the observation of the supervisor of municipal concerts in New York City.

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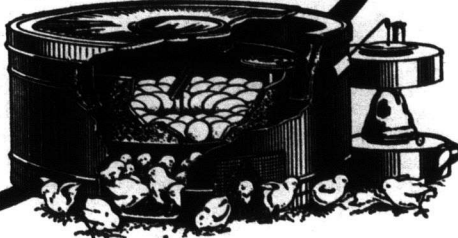
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