

In line with this, however, came the request for women volunteers to assist the Postal Authorities to deliver the 1916 Christmas mail. Twenty-five volunteers were asked for. Invitations to attend an emergency meeting in the Board of Trade Building at three o'clock, November 26th, 1916, were sent to the women who had signed the cards distributed at the June Mass Meeting when they promised to give whatever service they could according to their capability and strength. There was a hearty response and the twenty-five volunteers speedily selected. Thus it came to pass that for the first time women "postmen" were seen in the streets of Hamilton. The postal authorities reported that the experiment had proven entirely satisfactory.

SOLDIERS' WELFARE COMMITTEE.

From the standpoint of women's traditional mission as a ministering angel the work of the Soldiers' Welfare Committee is most interesting. Mrs. Hatch, the Convener, and her assistants were constant in their efforts to provide the soldiers with every needed comfort. During the first days when recruits were being added to the different units and the machinery for war equipment was not so efficient as it has become, some of the recruits were badly in need of boots. These were soon provided. On September the 18th, 1915, a call from Mrs. Hatch through the medium of the daily papers, for 1,000 pairs of socks brought in more than the required number. Since the organization of the Auxiliary 4,325 pairs of socks, of which 980 pairs were hand knitted, were distributed amongst the men of the different units stationed in Hamilton and vicinity, and en route from Niagara and Borden Camps. Soap and towels were provided in many instances, and hospital beds furnished. Games and furniture were supplied for the recreation rooms of the 86th Machine Gun, the 120th, the 173rd, 164th and 205th Battalions, the Mounted Rifles and a Platoon of the 129th County of Wentworth Battalion. For all of these the Committee received letters of thanks from the Commanding Officers, some of whom have since given up their lives in the great cause.

On the 14th of September, 1916, Mrs. Hatch accompanied by Lieut.-Colonel Hatch and a party of eight ladies journeyed to Camp Borden and distributed amongst the Hamilton soldiers in training a quantity of fresh fruit purchased by the Soldiers' Welfare Committee with funds given by friends in response to an appeal made through the medium of the local