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PLACE AID ON SOUND BASIS FOR MOTHERS

Gradual Development of the Scheme Advised by Dr. W. A. Riddell

\$895,583 to Start With—Cost Would Be Divided Between Province and Municipalities.

After making an exhaustive investigation extending over the last year, Dr. W. A. Riddell, Ontario deputy minister of labor, has completed his report on mothers' allowances, as ordered by the provincial government. It is a comprehensive document and reviews similar legislation in all parts of the world. The estimated cost under the scheme which he has outlined to the government, allowing for approximately a three-year development, is \$895,583.

The commission admits that his recommendations are comparatively conservative. "The reason for this is that while like the many social workers with whom we have consulted, and who have helped the case of all families are failing to support them, we also recognize the general need; still we believe that a sound foundation, well-laid, is the best assurance of a really adequate administration, and to secure this at the beginning of so new an undertaking, the doors should not be thrown open wide to all classes of applicants," the report states.

Conditions Suggested. The recommendations, some of which were contained in the interim report presented some months ago, are: Allowances available for mothers of children should be issued under the following conditions: (1) conjugal status where the mother is a widow, wife or inmate of a Provincial Hospital for the Insane, or the wife of a man who is totally disabled; (2) the mother must be in every way a suitable guardian for her children.

Allowances should be available only to families of two or more children who shall be under fourteen years of age, and who shall be in the immediate care of their mothers.

Further, the allowance shall only be paid when the father was a British subject, or the mother a British subject before marriage, and where the mother and



Policewomen of the motor squad in London now have motorcycles with side cars to facilitate rescue work. Picture shows a lost child being picked up.

children were actually resident in Canada at the time of the death of the father, and where the mother actually was resident in Canada for a period of three years immediately prior to the application for an allowance, and where the mother actually was resident in Ontario at the time of application and for a period of two years immediately previous; and where there is continued residence in Ontario of the family while in receipt of allowance.

Further, the allowance shall only be paid where the following economic status exists: then other and dependent children do not own property valued at more than \$2,000; the mother and dependent children do not own more than \$800 cash or securities (other than household goods) convertible into cash; children dependent upon their mother for support, and in such circumstances that they will not be properly cared for without government aid.

Secure Proper Care. The amount of the allowance, the report recommends, shall be determined in each case by the commission to be appointed, after receiving the recommendation of its five members. In each case the aim shall be to provide an amount adequate to secure for the child proper home care, at the same time with some reference to the actual cost of the support of a child in a public institution. It is necessary that a maximum per family should be determined, based on the cost of living budget.

Under the heading "source of funds," the report continues: "The cost of administering the acts that is, of the central organization, should be borne wholly by the provincial government; allowances should be payable on the recommendation of the commission from an annual legislative appropriation for that purpose; one-half of the amount, however, to be a direct charge upon the municipality to be named by the commission, in which the beneficiary has established residence. No municipal corporation should be so chargeable unless the beneficiary has resided in the municipality continuously for at least one year."

Commission of Five. The report recommends that the act should be administered under the general principle of strong central control, with local co-operation under a provincial commission composed of five members appointed by the lieutenant-governor-in-council, two of whom should be women; the members to serve without remuneration, excepting that a per diem allowance may be provided during regular sessions. The term of members should be for five years, and arrangement should be made for one to retire each year.

The powers of such a commission would include: Recommendation to the government regarding the appointment of staff; the investigation into and consideration of all applications for allowances, with power to fix the amount of such allowances, if any, and to direct the government to recommend to the government the passing of regulations.

Idea is Popular. Public hearings were held in four cities to secure information on which to base the reports, and it is significant that of the ninety-three witnesses who testified, not one questioned the general principle of the government allowance to dependent mothers, and each took a positive stand for immediate legislation in this direction. "It was distinctly evident," the report states, "that the idea of the state employing the mother of the future citizen to rear her children according to approved standards, and subsidizing the home for this purpose where need exists has taken hold of a very large element in the community and is being given expression in no uncertain voice."

Stress was properly placed on the necessity of divorcing the proposed assistance to mothers from any taint of charity. Perhaps the experience gained from the administration of pensions to soldiers' dependents and of the patriotic fund will be a guide. There was a remarkable frankness in objections taken to the classes of persons suggested as administrators of the fund and the object came from unexpected sources. Judges, members of the city council, people prominent socially, politicians, even churchmen were objected to as not being suitable.

Interpret Statistics. Statistics compiled by the Social Service Commission of Toronto are cited, showing the number of children in this city who entered institutions for various causes in 1918. These statistics cover 1,741 children, and the causes as given in the order of their frequency are: Illness in home, illegitimacy, desertion, death of mother, widowhood, delinquency, insanity, emergency, mother feeble-minded, returned from foster homes, parents separated, death of both parents.

It is explained that the purpose of the report is to interpret the statistics without bias, keeping prominently in the fact that any mothers' allowance scheme has in mind primarily the welfare of the child; that it will operate only when the child is in need, and only when the conditions are such that financial support is the main requisite to save the child's home through the agency of the mother.

The fourp'ny doss

WHEN Peter Wright, the great Chief of the British Seamen's Union—was in Canada, he said that many a time in the old days a fourp'ny doss was the only thing that stood between him and a sleep on the sidewalk.

SAILORS and Soldiers and good hardy men the world over have a vivid recollection of these places.

THE "Doss" as such does not exist in Canada, but Hotels for Working Men are a definite part of the Salvation Army's activities in the larger Canadian cities.

308 Service Posts in this Territory. Use them!

governing the appointment of local committees, and to have full advisory powers over local committees and the final decision in all matters affecting allowances.

Widows Number 16,048. The following interesting statistics are given:

Total number of widows with children in Ontario, 16,048; total number of children of widows in Ontario, 31,223. Of the 400 widows visited, 160 have been received by the government from labor, farm, municipal, women's, religious and other organizations, urging the desirability of providing mothers' allowances. An analysis of these resolutions shows uniformity of judgment on two important issues: the first that the citizenship of the province is endangered if its children are not assured of adequate home care; the second, that it is the duty of the government to provide funds for the support of homes where the father of the family has been broken up, and as a consequence, poverty threatens to break up the home, or make its influence negligible.

A report was prepared by Miss Margaret K. Strong, M.A., in the capacity of special investigator, under the direction of Dr. Riddell.

GARDEN SUBURB AT SHERBROOKE

On Initiative of Cotton Company—Chartered for Benefit of Employes and Their Children.

At Sherbrooke, Que. there is to be a new garden suburb, due to the initiative of the Canadian-Cotton Mills of the Canadian-Cotton Mills. A site of one hundred acres has been purchased, and the company has been formed, for which a charter has been secured from the city of Sherbrooke. A contract has been made with the cotton company whereby the company takes all responsibility and guarantees to pay the housing company 10 per cent per annum on the investment and to collect the rents from the tenants. One hundred houses will be built during the present year and another hundred during 1921 and after that more houses to keep pace with the extension of the plant, which is expected to double its capacity within the next few years. At a recent meeting of the city council Ald. Wells stated the case as follows:

Day Nurseries Are Profitable. There is one feature of the cotton company's scheme that would have been considered wildly idealistic a few years ago, but which modern experience has shown to be very profitable, as it has reduced the labor turnover from 400 per cent to practically nil. The company desire to establish, as part of the housing scheme, day nurseries for the conservation of child life, because they have tried the experiment at their mills at Danielson, Connecticut, and found it a crowning success, both from a business and a humanitarian standpoint. The following letter from R. J. Caldwell, chairman of the company, to Dr. Nadeau, director of housing, speaks for itself:

I see that, while your plans do not provide for day nurseries in the provincial housing plan from which Sherbrooke is to benefit, yet something may be arranged in this programme at Sherbrooke, and I am happy to see your interest in it, but I can assure you from our own practical experience that nurseries are very profitable institutions. We noticed in our mills at Connecticut and Massachusetts that a good many children of mothers who wanted to work in the mill were neglected during the day, because of the absence of the mothers, and that the more conscientious mothers would not leave their children, and those who perhaps were in better condition financially through other workers in the family, and could stay home with their children, still preferred to work if the children might be provided for.

Healthy Children the Result. We therefore inaugurated an experimental nursery in Danielson, Conn., which became immediately popular, and received the quick support of the clergy, and within a week it was necessary to make plans for its enlargement. We were shocked to find so many children suffering from malnutrition and general neglect, and the splendid freedom of the parents. This is a bad thing for the community and a bad thing for the children. It breeds a race in the coming generation that will be defective physically and hence mentally. It makes backward school children, and hence contributes to crime. There is nothing in my judgment in our whole housing campaign which has proved of more far-reaching importance than caring for the children, and surely the carrying out of it is its own reward, for the trained nurses and attendants, scientific cooking and the care of the children, and the fact that we have made happy children out of a lot of unhappy ones, and contented parents, who, it can be stated with assurance, would never be satisfied again to see their children less healthy and vigorous and contented than they are as a result of the administration of the nursery. Certainly the nursery has been a boon to all. It has won the hearts of the mothers and contributed to contentment, and been one of the factors in our turnover of labor, which, in so far as it is housed in our own modern housing, has been reduced from 400 per cent to actually less than 1 per cent.

We have ample evidence that the experience of our employees has been the same as ours, and I have talked with some of the largest concerns promoting housing for their employees and the story is everywhere the same. The plans for the nursery at Danielson show a splendidly equipped institution with large playrooms, dining rooms, cradle room, bath, pantry, dish-washing room, open terraces, cloak rooms and other utilities and amenities, and should captivate the imagination of all who believe in the possibility of better and more human relations between capital and labor—Alfred Buckley in Conservation of Life.

There are never quite enough Stetsons to go around—just another instance of how alert men appreciate fine style and thoroughbred quality.

JOHN B. STETSON COMPANY
Philadelphia, U. S. A.

STETSON

been deserted, in one case the father was in jail, and in eight cases he was otherwise incapacitated. Investigators of the department visited the homes of 400 widows in different parts of the province, calls being made only where the widow had children under sixteen years of age. From the list of homes visited all were eliminated which were evidently sufficiently provided for. Of the 400 homes visited eighty were found where there was a mother and children without husband and father, and in need. With this proportion as a basis, viz., one-fifth, or twenty per cent, it is estimated that in the 16,048 widows in Ontario there are 3,209 families in need of financial assistance.

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MIDDLE CLASS UNION IS NOW ORGANIZED

Voice in Affairs of Nation to Be Sought by Organized Bourgeoisie.

(New York Evening Post.) More than 150 applications have been received to date by the organizers of the new Middle Class Union. The incorporation papers of the organization were granted last Friday.

Wilmet L. Morehouse, the lawyer-organizer of the union, is enthusiastic over the prospects in view. Last night at his home in Brooklyn he explained at length the purposes and hopes of the organizers.

"We hope to make the middle classes articulate," he said. "Already we have had more than 150 applicants and we haven't even opened offices. I feel sure that the movement will be a great success. There is need for just such an organization."

"Our main objects, as outlined in the statement on which Judge Kelly approved the incorporation, are: We aim to organize all the people of the middle class in New York state to protect their constitutional rights from all aggression from whatever source. We intend also to organize groups and centers within our spheres of influence and eventually to make the movement a national one."

"The capitalists are organized. The man who works with his hands is organized. In between there is the great mass of unorganized workers who have no articulate voice as a whole in the affairs of the nation."

One of the first tasks which Mr. Morehouse expects to tackle will be the high cost of living. He did not consider it likely that the middle class union would call strikes. "What we aim to do," he said, "is to prevent strikes; not to promote them."

Membership dues are to be nominal, a dollar a year. None of the officials, with the possible exception of a secretary, are to be salaried.

Consider This Woman's Case

Mrs. A. L. DeVine, of Los Angeles (Cal.), says: "After I had suffered from a female trouble for years, not being able to do my housework, or get any relief from doctors, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made me a well woman and I want to tell the world the good this medicine does."

This woman is perfectly justified, and should be commended for telling others how she regained her health.

VALUE OF INCINERATORS.

(Conservation.) In the army, every camp, no matter how small, had its incinerator. Fatigue parties were told off, and every scrap of litter was collected and burned. All cans also were put in the fire to remove particles of food that would attract flies. Many of these incinerators were of quite inexpensive and improvised construction; others were specially manufactured.

The splendid freedom of the army from typhoid fever attests their efficiency. Moreover, in this manner the camps were kept decent and tidy. Compare this with the disgraceful method employed by many civilian communities of dumping garbage in huge, evil-smelling, unsightly heaps. Worst of all, such dumps are actually used for filling hollows on which houses are to be built.

In this respect, if in no other, let us take a leaf out of the army's book and profit by the lessons learned during the war.

How Fat Actress Was Made Slim

Many stage people now depend entirely upon Marmale Prescription Tablets for reducing and controlling fat. One clever actress tells that she reduced two to four pounds a week by using the new form of the famous Marmale Prescription Tablets several times a year, keeps her weight just right. All druggists sell Marmale Prescription Tablets at \$1.00 a large case. Or you can get them by sending price direct to the Marmale Co., 200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. If you have not tried them do so. They are harmless and effective.

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Just one trial convinces you Sloan's Liniment helps drive away rheumatic twinges.

WHY endure pain when you know Sloan's Liniment will relieve it promptly? It couldn't remain the World's Liniment for 38 years if it wasn't highly beneficial in relieving rheumatic aches, stiff joints, sore muscles, lumbago, neuralgia, strains, bruises, exposure to weather, etc.

Penetrates without rubbing, leaving no stained skin, clogged pores, mussiness. A pain and ache liniment that stands alone in doing what it is meant to do. Get a bottle today and keep it handy. All druggists. Three sizes—3c, 7c, \$1.40.

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Get Back Your Grip On Health

NUXATED IRON
Master Strength-Builder Of the Blood

HELPS MAKE STRONG, STURDY MEN AND HEALTHY, BEAUTIFUL WOMEN
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For mother, father, the boys and girls. It's the sweet for all ages—at work or play.

The beneficial goody.

When you're nervous and tired, see how it refreshes!

The Flavor Lasts

Cascarets

FOR CONSTIPATION
THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP

The CANDY Cathartic