

# REPORTS GIVE IDEA OF SCOPE OF WORK

## Patriotic Fund Executive Hears Financial Statements—How Money is Expended.

## Big Allocations From Winnipeg Funds to Provincial—German District Shows Loyalty.

"We will all have to renew our subscriptions when they expire, and you might as well know it now," said Pres. W. J. Bulman, addressing the executive of the Manitoba Patriotic fund at its meeting yesterday afternoon. Pres. Bulman went on to say that the funds available would be taxed to their utmost capacity this year and that the fund would have to be renewed at the end of that time.

At 4 o'clock the executive for the Winnipeg Patriotic fund first met and listened to the report on the wood camp conducted by the organization during the late winter and early spring. The report was given by J. G. Ashdown, chairman of the wood camp committee, and was flattering in the extreme. It showed that the sum of \$11,985.12 had been expended at the camp during its operations. At present on hand were 7,000 cords of chopped wood, 5,000 feet of fence posts and 3,900 feet of piling. The merchandise and supplies on hand amounted to about \$500 and there was \$400 worth of camp construction. Insurance on the wood, which has been placed, amounts to \$14,000.

### Would Show Profit.

Mr. Ashdown stated that his committee was rather disappointed as to the comparatively small amount of wood which had been cut, but the reason for it was that the camp had been started so late in the season. The camp had afforded work for 370 men. The report closed by stating that after the wood had been sold, the operation of the camp would result in a profit to the fund, rather than a loss.

The executive allocated \$50,000 of the cash now on hand in its treasury, to the Manitoba Patriotic fund, it being thought that the latter fund should be further strengthened. It was further decided that unpaid pledges now in possession of the Winnipeg fund to the extent of \$250,000, be also allocated to the Manitoba fund. It was pointed out that, with the coming of summer, the relief work of the Winnipeg fund would be very greatly reduced.

### Financial Statement.

The financial statement was then read by A. M. Nanton, chairman of the finance committee. It showed that the total amount promised to the funds on March 31, this year, was \$909,392.19, and of this amount \$485,084.85 had already been received in cash. There is still to come in \$423,407.34.

The receipts of the Winnipeg fund ending with the last day of March, were \$412,777.64. The disbursements were classified as follows: Unemployment cases, \$92,729.76; transferred to the Manitoba fund for soldiers' dependents, \$313,917.73; cash and bank balance on March 31, \$107,402.51. Applications dealt with numbered 3,102 and the cases granted relief were 2,329.

Those unemployed and in need were paid in September, \$102; October, \$2,241.25; November, \$10,224.28; December, \$12,640.59; January, \$20,546.77; February, \$18,433.06, and March, \$28,538.75, a total of \$92,729.76.

### Class B Relief.

All applications for relief under class B have been investigated at the home, and if approval of the allowance has been given to the lady visitors to administer in the most economic and safe manner. So far \$70,023.91 has been expended on the 2,329 families assisted on general relief, including food, fuel, etc., while \$7,592.71 was expended for clothing and footwear, \$11,796.20 for fuel and \$3,860 loaned to families for which demand notes without interest were taken. It is expected that of the loans made to deserving families a large percentage will be repaid before next winter.

At the Bible House branch, where foreign cases were handled, of the 2,329 unemployed families assisted during the winter, 1,285 were foreign born and 1,044 English speaking.

Since April 1 all foreign cases have been handled by civic relief. During March the fund assisted from the Bible House 603 foreign cases, an average of 23.2 per day. For the first 10 days in April the number of families assisted amounted to 45 or an average of 4.5 per day.

### Supplemented Workers' Efforts.

During March 350 English-speaking families were handled by the officers in the bureau, or an average of 13.46, and for the first 10 days of April the number had dropped to 53, an average of 5.3 daily. Taking the total number of families of unemployed assisted during the six months ending March 31, of 2,329 as shown in the report, the average cost per family works out at \$39.82 for each family for the six months period or \$6.64 per family per month. It will thus be shown that the fund only supplemented the efforts of the breadwinners out of employment.

Much credit must be given to the visiting ladies in charge of districts in their untiring efforts to get employment for those in their charge.

As mentioned, a number of distress loans have been made during the winter. These were granted to 149 heads of families in Winnipeg, 17 of the earlier applicants having found it necessary to apply for the second loan to tide them over the winter. For these loans a demand note was taken and up to March 31 four loans amounting to \$85 have been repaid in full.

Ending March 31, the ladies' clothing committee had distributed on recommendation of ladies' committee 16,127 articles of clothing and furnished as many as 2,963 pairs of footwear to children of needy families.

### Manitoba Fund.

When the Manitoba fund executive met, they listened to an intelligent report on the expenditures made during the seven months of the fund's operation. The report was read also by Mr. Nanton and it was ascertained that \$176,155.46 had been paid out to soldiers' dependents. The expenses of administration, including salaries, supplies, etc., amounted to \$3,201.73, and the cash and bank balance at the end of the month was named at \$107,767.75.

The total number of applications received by this fund and subsequently investigated up to March 31, was 2,130, of which 1,449 were on the regular monthly payroll and 390 had been passed for special amounts. The number of applications for families living elsewhere than Winnipeg in the province was 630, and there were 436 of these applications on the

regular payroll and 34 special amount applications passed. The soldiers' applications were divided as follows:

### Monthly Payments.

Canadians, 1,845; British reservists, 123; French reservists, 149; Belgian reservists, 13.

Dependents of soldiers were paid in September, \$13,820.35; October, \$15,886.01; November, \$17,031; December, \$22,782.70; January, \$28,108.11; February, \$30,905.44; March, \$47,621.85.

The calls on the fund for the benefit of soldiers' dependents are daily increasing. Up to March 31, 1,839 dependent families were assisted. The fourth and fifth contingents have so far not been mobilized and it is expected that the demands will be much heavier.

All sums which have been paid out have been passed on by the approval committee, which has met daily since the formation of the fund, for the purpose of considering all applications for assistance. In the \$47,621.85 paid out in March, \$9,000 of that amount was advance adjustment cheques paying for the first half of April.

### More Families on List.

Since Jan. 1 the number of soldiers' families assisted has nearly doubled, and for the month of March, the demands on the Manitoba fund for soldiers' dependents exceeded \$1,500 per day. When the fourth and fifth contingents are mobilized a monthly payroll of close on \$50,000 is expected. Due economy in the administration of the fund has been practised throughout. On April 1 a complete revision was made. All cases were carefully gone over with the result that many were revised, the reduction being deemed necessary to make sure that the largely increasing number of soldiers' dependents will all be provided for on an equal scale.

### Rhineland's Big Contribution.

Judge Myers reported appreciable progress in the way of provincial collections being made outside Winnipeg. T. R. Deacon brought the attention of the assemblage to the fact that Rhineland, a German municipality, had contributed a larger amount than any other outside point, with the exception of St. Boniface.

Sincere and unanimous votes of thanks were passed to Judge Robson, Chas. F. Roland and Frank Kerr for their untiring efforts in carrying on the work of the fund and also to the approval committee of five, which meets daily.